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Kozyrev Backs Confederation of Former USSR States

LD1606160994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1353 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] If a former USSR republic is ready to set up a confederation or even a union, Russia will unequivocally support it, the Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev declared at a session of the Council on Foreign Policy in Moscow Thursday.

In his opinion, the idea suggested by Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev to set up a Eurasian alliance "should focus on current CIS integration difficulties rather than distract attention from them."

He said it was good that the process of separation in the former USSR proceeded peacefully. "Fortunately, Russia had enough strength to avoid confrontation and bloodshed. Now, it is necessary to advance towards setting up a real commonwealth rather than a neutral community, a commonwealth where all its members be respected as sovereign and independent republics," he said.

Speaking about Russia's peace-keeping efforts in CIS states, Kozyrev regretted the absence of appropriate legislation for that.

"Regrettably, our new parliament has no time for such legislation. It finds it more exciting to discuss North Korea's nuclear program. The impression is that our members of parliament work on the principle that our chief concern is that there should not be another Pol Pot," Kozyrev said.

He voiced puzzlement at the fact that the Federation Council is not ready to sanction a Russian peace-keeping operation in Abkhazia. "Whenever there is a vacuum, it is always filled. If not Russia, some other country will come to that region, and that will hardly be in Russia's interests," Kozyrev said.

Russia's Ivashov Favors CIS 'Single Armed Forces'

LD1806152994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Lieutenant General Leonid Ivashov, secretary of the Council of Defense Ministers of CIS member-states, is in favor of formation of "a military or a defensive union" of CIS states which would provide for "the creation of joint or single armed forces of CIS countries."

Speaking at the sitting of the forum Towards New Accord on Saturday in Moscow, Ivashov said that "such union will solve the problem of restoration of the spirit of confidence between the peoples, will prevent possible threat to CIS states, and, in case of an aggression, will help to repulse it by joint efforts."

As many as 80 representatives of 17 parties and 30 public organizations and movements of the former Soviet republics with the exception of Turkmenistan are participating in the forum.

Ivashov called "creation of a security system in the Asian region with the participation of the states neighboring CIS countries" among the necessary "political and legal tasks" to be solved in the near future.

In Ivashov's words, the Eastern-European system of collective security could include the armed forces of Belarus, the group of the Russian armed forces, and the Kaliningrad grouping which would subordinate "to a body like Council of Defense" headed by the Belarussian president.

He proposes "to unite military systems of three Transcaucasian states in the Caucasian region" with Russian military presence and command and control center in Rostov-na-Donu.

Military systems of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and "in accordance with its readiness" Turkmenistan can be united in the frameworks of one more military grouping.

The system of collective security in the Urals can include the armed forces of the Ural military district and the armed forces of Kazakhstan.

"Now it's time to adopt a political decision," declared Ivashov. However, as he said, despite the fact that "there exist different military threats the Russian Foreign Ministry strictly adheres to the position of a non-allied existence." In Ivashov's opinion, "when there exists one bloc (NATO - Interfax) which does not want to be disbanded, there is a real necessity in our defensive union."

Three Parties Sign Appeal for Reunification of Slav Lands

MK1706104094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 17 Jun 94 p 2

[Report by Gleb Cherkasov under the "Intentions" rubric: "Three Parties Want To Reunite CIS Slavic Republics. Ivan Rybkin May Receive Their Leaders"]

[Text] Aleksandr Tikhonov, chairman of the "Consolidation" party; Igor Karpenko, leader of the "Slavic Unity of Ukraine"; and Nikolay Sergeyev, chairman of the "'Belaya Rus' Slavic Assembly" party, yesterday circulated an "Appeal to the Heads of State and Parliaments of the Republic of Belarus, the Russian Federation, and the Republic of Ukraine." The appeal contains a call to pass "legislative acts on the unification of the sovereign states to form a confederation or some other mutually acceptable state entity." In the opinion of its authors, "the creation of a confederation will make it possible to prevent disintegration of the unified community and to solve political, economic, and defense tasks."

Speaking at a press conference devoted to the promulgation of the appeal, the leaders of the parties stated that the pro-integration feeling prevalent among the peoples of the three countries does not always meet with adequate understanding among members of the political elites of Russia, Ukraine, and Belorussia [Belarus]. At the same time, according to the assurances of the "Consolidation" chairman and State Duma deputy Aleksandr Tikhonov, Speaker Ivan Rybkin intends to meet with the authors of the appeal as early as 21 June. Mr. Tikhonov thinks the speaker's stance is drawing closer to proposals expounded in the appeal.

As for practical steps to create a unified state entity, it is suggested that referendums be held in all the three republics following which the supreme organs of representative power could take specific actions to carry into effect the peoples' will. In the view of the authors of the appeal, the new Slavic statehood ought to have unified armed forces, a unified "ruble" system, and equality of state languages.

It is worth pointing out that the very fact of signing such an appeal is, to a certain extent, a new method in the political struggle both in Russia and in the Ukraine, as well as in Belarus. Until recently pro-integration and unification sentiments were mainly exploited by radical-communist and national-patriotic organizations, so the same sentiments expressed by "centrist" associations may have greater repercussions.

Agrarian Parties of Russia, Belarus, Ukraine To Cooperate

OW1706074794 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Viktor Mayuchiy video report; from the "Utro" program's "Mir" feature]

[Text] Good morning, friends! Our greeting comes to you from Belarus. To be more precise, it is from that unique place where the borders of the three sovereign states, Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine, converge.

A meeting of the leaders of the Russian, Ukrainian, and Belarusian Agrarian Parties took place this spring here at the Friendship Monument. Worldly wisdom tells us that peasants should be growing grain and not be engaged in politics. However, the reality of our life proves otherwise.

A number of documents that will coordinate the parties' activities were signed at this meeting and the opinion of those gathered here was that this political act today could become the beginning of the movement toward the re-creation of the union of the three Slavic states, and possibly, a single state.

[Begin recording] [Biryukov] These are not political ambitions. Even with the most cursory of analyses, we can see the worsening situation and the decline in the standard of living of the peasants, and the population of Russia in general. Probably the same situation exists in Belarus and Ukraine, and it shows that the basic reason for it is this artificial forced breakdown of the former great state.

[Sharetskiy] The peasants are the most landed sector of the population and that is why we, before anyone else, sensed that the purely human need to produce, to recreate that which we had and lost.

[Dovgal] I think that the Belarus and Ukraine state systems will regenerate and strengthen if we work in a unified space like this. [end recording]

The peasant politicians' pronouncements, like the documents they signed, so far are nothing more that a beautiful gesture, the same as the sowing of seed that took place at the monument near the border of the three sovereign states. Belarus' and Ukraine's mutual relations with the third brother, Russia, will most probably depend to a great degree on the results of the presidential elections. Namely, the Belarusian and Ukrainian Republics' future political and economic directions will be determined after the elections.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 18 Jun

LD1806062894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0548 GMT 18 Jun 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA frontpages an article dealing with the deployment of a peace-keeping force in the zone of the Georgian Abkhazian conflict. The seriousness of the situation in central Asia and the Transcaucasian region cannot but worry the Russian leadership. The governments of Western countries should be equaqlly interested in the settlement of armed conflicts, specifically, in the Transcaucasian region, the newspaper writes.

"However, quite unexpectedly for us, the West assumed a negative stand on the issue," ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA points out. According to U.N. Secretary-General Butrus Buturs-Ghali, the U.N. would not object to Russia's peace-keeping efforts in the Transcaucasian region, but Moscow will not be given the status of U.N. troops. The newspaper quotes the words of Russian Deputy Defence Minister Georgy Kondratiev, now visiting Abkhazia, who emphatically refuted reports saying that the peace-keeping operation had already been started, and stressed that "the planned reconnaissance of the terrain is now under way, which should ensure the preparation of the peace-keeping operation."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA also carries a material on this subject, specifically, an interview with Gennadiy Fedosov, ambassador at large of the Russian Foregn Ministry, who believes that it is necessary to move Russian peace-keeping troops to the zone of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict. "The whole experience of the

conflict shows that it is impossible to maintain peace, which is shaky enough, without a peace-keeping force," the newspaper writes. According to Fedosov, Russia needs peace in Abkhazia in no smaller degree than the conflicting parties. "Another outbreak of bloodshed in Abkhazia is fraught with the threat of a dramatic expansion of the conflict. It may easily spread across Georgia's borders," the newspaper stresses.

Aleksandr Livshits, head of a group of experts of the Russian president's administration, comments in ROSSIYSKIE VESTI on the president's decrees dealing with housing loans, housing certificates and the sale of unfinished apartment houses. In his opinion, the decree on housing certificates is the most important one, because it gives a chance to all those who want to buy a flat on the instalment system. "of course, additional instructions of the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank will be needed. However, a way to bringing down the acuteness of the housing problem has been cleared," Livshits writes.

TRUD carries a statement of the Russian union of industrialists and entrepreneurs, who express concern over the growth of crime and violence against Russian business people. "It is necessary to understand clearly that the situation is getting out of control, which means that extraordinary measures should be taken. On their part, Russian industrialists and entrepreneurs are ready to support any resolute steps of the president, the federal assembly and the government, aimed at imposing law and order and ensuring the guarantee of the individual safety of Russian citizens," the statement says.

"A criminal terror has swept Russia. The presidential decree alone is not enough to put an end to it," KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes. The newspaper points out that crime is threatening today not only the safety of individual citizens, but also the very foundations of Russia's statehood. This is why society is demanding resolute actions from the authorities. "The president's decree, whether it is good or bad, is actually the only real step taken by the authorities in this direction," the newspaper stresses.

PRAVDA continues to discuss the crime problem in the country and the president's decree "on urgent measures for protecting the population against gangsterism and other manifestations of organised crime." The newspaper carries an article on this subject by A.Murashev, former head of the Moscow Interior Ministry department and now deputy to the State Duma from the Russia's Choice Movement. According to Murashev, "the decree will not affect in any way the organised crime. It will affect, in the first place, ordinary business people and will become an extremely dangerous weapons for settling scores between them."

Touching upon this subject, NOVAYA EZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA quotes the opinion of Issa Kostoev, chairman of the committee for constitutional legislation and judicial and legal issues at the Federation Council. He points out that "some of the provisions of the decree are obviously at variance with the Constitution and the criminal procedure code of the Russian Federation" and expresses hope that the prosecutor-general's Office, the Interior Ministry and the Federal Counterintelligence Service will issue instruction, which will rule out a possibility of the abuse of power by the authorities.

Kozyrev To Sign Partnership for Peace 22 Jun

LD1706164394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1550 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Mineyev]

[Text] Brussels June 17 TASS—Russia's Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrey Kozyrev will sign the framework document of the Partnership for Peace programme in NATO's headquarters in Brussels on June 22, an official spokesman for the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation announced today.

Sources in NATO headquarters and the Russian Embassy told ITAR- TASS that negotiations will be held here on Saturday between the NATO chief's political adviser Gebhardt von Moltke and Russian officials to specify the programme of the Russian foreign minister's visit.

On Wednesday, the North Atlantic Council called on Russia to hold a discussion of its relations with the alliance in pursuance of the accords reached at the meeting of the NATO foreign ministers and their East European partners in Istanbul on June 9 and 10.

At the Istanbul conference, the North Atlantic alliance welcomed Russia's intention to join without any preconditions the programme of cooperation for East European and former Soviet countries proposed by the leaders of the NATO member-countries in January. The NATO ministers at the same time agreed to "a broader dialogue" with Russia with due account of its size and weight in international affairs and its nuclear status.

Over the past six months, the question about Russia's special relationship with NATO was in the centre of talks about Moscow's membership of this programme which provides for cooperation in military planning and training, joint exercises and interaction in peacekeeping and rescue operations.

Russia proposed a formal announcement of its special status and asked for NATO's pledge to hold mandatory consultations with Russia before making important political decisions. The alliance which recognizes Russia's role, sought to put a deeper dialogue with Moscow on "a more informal basis."

As concerns the framework agreement, Brussels position is firm: it is one and the same for all partners and gives all of them equal access to cooperation with the alliance.

The framework agreement will be signed by Russia in the same form as it was signed by 20 partner-countries, including states of the former Warsaw treaty and the former Soviet Union, ITAR-TASS learned in NATO headquarters.

It is possible that two other documents will be agreed, although it is not yet clear what name the first one will be given: it may be a statement, a declaration or a protocol of the meeting between the Russian minister and members of the North Atlantic Council. NATO expects Russia to put on the table a presentation document which contains proposals for cooperation and is submitted by every partner.

Andrey Kozyrev is due to meet first of all NATO Deputy Secretary- General Sergio Balanzino (Secretary-General Manfred Woerner is away for treatment). He will then attend a meeting of the North Atlantic Council to sign the framework agreement. NATO sources did not rule out the possibility of changes to the habitual procedure. One of them is that the council meeting will be attended not only by permanent envoys but also by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and probably some other foreign ministers who will arrive in Brussels for the occasion.

A day before the signing, Andrey Kozyrev is due to hold a meeting with Warren Christopher to discuss key international issues, including the tension on the Korean peninsula.

Churkin, NATO Official on Negotiations Progress

LD1806200594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1955 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Mineyev]

[Text] Brussels June 18 TASS—Deputy Russian Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin and Deputy NATO Secretary-General for Political Issues Gebhardt von Moltke voiced progress in the establishment of new relations between Moscow and NATO on Saturday.

After negotiations at the NATO Brussels headquarters, Von Moltke told correspondents that the Russian-NATO cooperation is on a good path. In his turn, Churkin added that the negotiations on a broad range of issues were useful. Neither of them specified what progress has been achieved.

In the words of Von Moltke, permanent representatives of NATO member-state in the rank of ambassadors will study the results of his negotiations with Churkin on Monday, and Churkin will hold consultations with his government.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev is expected to sign a framework document of the NATO Partnership for Peace program on Monday. It is so far unclear whether the sides will adopt a bilateral document which, in the opinion of Russia, should provide for a broader political dialogue between Russia and NATO with due account of the Russian scale, the role in international affairs and the nuclear status.

NATO recognizes the Russian right to special attitude but wants to hold this broader dialogue on the informal basis outside the partnership program that is equal for all.

Further on Churkin Talks

LD1806144894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1025 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Mineyev]

[Text] Brussels, 18 June—Vitaliy Churkin, Russian deputy foreign minister, who arrived in Brussels on 17 June, is holding talks in NATO Headquarters with Gebhardt von Moltke, the alliance's deputy secretary general, an ITAR-TASS correspondent has been told at the Russian Embassy.

NATO sources said yesterday that the North Atlantic Council had entrusted Moltke to meet Russian representatives before Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev arrived in Brussels to discuss the details of the visit and to finalize the content and title of the document that Russia and NATO plan to sign on 22 June, when Russia joins the Partnership for Peace program.

Moscow Calls for Negotiated Solution to DPRK Problem

LD1706160994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1333 GMT 17 Jun 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy and others]

[Text] Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksander Panov told Interfax that although Pyongyang's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency complicated matters, Russia kept effective its call for an international conference on the Korean peninsula.

In case no diplomatic solution was found for the nuclear problem, Panov said, the UN Security Council should attach equal importance to the call for an international conference and possible sanctions against Pyongyang. Panov saw the problem as extremely delicate.

He reminded Interfax that last year Pyongyang declared its decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. One day before it was legally entitled to act on it, Pyongyang suspended its decision. In other words, Panov said, it remained party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

According to Panov, it was not Pyongyang's decision to withdraw from the IAEA and Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty that called for sanctions. Sanctions were not introduced against a country for this kind of decisions, Panov said, because any country was privileged to join a treaty or withdraw from it.

According to Panov, the international community was discontent with Pyongyang's failure to show good will and cooperate with the IAEA. Day in and day out it remembered to attach conditions to whether it would or would not allow inspections of this or that facility, which translated, according to Panov, into a refusal to meet its pledges under the treaty and IAEA regulations even though it remained party to the treaty and a member of the IAEA. As a result, the IAEA failed to get a full picture of the North Korean nuclear program and moved to raise the issue of sanctions.

No IAEA report claimed Pyongyang had enough plutonium to produce nuclear weapons. The IAEA only stated its inability to get a full picture of the North Korean nuclear program, Panov said.

In Panov's view, the possible introduction of anti-Pyongyang sanctions should be, if anything, gradual. Instead of being tough, the sanctions ought to spell a word of warning. They must remind Pyongyang that the international community meant business and wanted it to comply in good faith with its commitments. The further course of action would depend on Pyongyang.

Panov said that both Russia and its partners were interested in a negotiated solution of the problem. The Russian call for an international conference gained growing support, he said.

Panov saw media reports on plans for President Yeltsin's visit to South Korea as premature. The recently-held Russian-Korean summit failed to discuss that issue in detail, he said, although President Kim Yong-sam had, indeed, invited his Russian counterpart to visit Seoul and the invitation had been accepted. The two national leaders agreed, though, Panov said, that diplomatic officers would discuss when exactly the visit was to take place.

Moscow Consults U.S., DPRK on Nuclear Issue

LD1706190094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1723 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[Text] United Nations June 17 TASS—Russia is holding bilateral consultations with the United States and the DPRK on peaceful settlement of the North Korean nuclear problem at the United Nations headquarters, Russian Permanent Representative to the United Nations Yuliy Vorontsov said here today.

"We still want a peaceful solution to this problem, and it is possible to do it. That is why, we continue to discuss the problem at the bilateral level with the United States and North Korea. We would like the Security Council to take a decision that would help a political solution," said Vorontsov.

Kozyrev on Talks With PRC on Korean Issue

LD1706192794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1725 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Dmitiry Gorokhov and Yuriy Kozlov]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jun—Qian Qichen, PRC State Council vice premier and foreign minister, will within

the next few days visit the Russian capital. Andrey Kozyrev informed State Duma deputies of this on Friday.

Asked at what level and with what effectiveness the situation concerning the Korean Peninsula is being discussed with Beijing, the Russian foreign minister said in particular, that there is a regular exchange of views. Over the past two years alone the head of Russia's foreign policy department "has had five or six meetings with the PRC foreign minister, and on each occasion this problem was discussed."

"Like Russia," A. Kozyrev said, "China is also definitely against the DPRK breaking with the nuclear nonproliferation regime and in favor of a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula. In other words, it favors neither one of the Korean states possessing or taking steps to possess nuclear weapons." According to the minister "this is the fundamental basis of the coincidence and fundamental closeness of the approaches of Russia and the PRC." Of course, he went on to say, there are nuances of detail and tactics, but in the main the positions of the two countries coincide.

Kozyrev Denies Russia Not To Prolong DPRK Treaty

LD1706190394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1724 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Yuriy Kozlov]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has refuted claims that Russia will not prolong the treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance with the DPRK whose validity term expires in two years. No decisions to the effect have been taken, the minister told Duma deputies here today.

"The question of treaty prolongation will be raised in fall 1995," said the minister. In his words, the Russian president will take a decision after possible consultations with the parliament.

A more updated interpretation of the treaty, including Article 1, with due account of today's realities is being discussed, he added. The thing is that some document wordings "reflected political thinking of two socialist states and include terms of that period—on protection of common socialist values and so on. That is why, we certainly have a modern interpretation of the treaty text," said the minister.

Kozyrev on DPRK Threat to Russian Security

LD1706185294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1609 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Yuriy Kozlov]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jun—The nuclear problem on the Korean Peninsula "contains a potential direct threat to the national security and state interests of the Russian Federation," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said at the State Duma today.

First, he noted, what is involved here are steps to violate the nuclear weapons nonproliferation regime in a direct proximity to our borders, on the Korean Peninsula, where the situation is tense at times as it is. Therefore, the possibility of a nuclear state appearing in a zone of tension directly affects our security and interests. The second circumstance, in his words, is the fact that, apart from the DPRK, there is a "whole number of states that are on the threshold of adopting similar decisions aimed at acquiring nuclear weapons in one way or another."

"If one state," the minister continued, "is allowed to embark on this road and follow it through from start to finish, in other words, if one begins by violating the monitoring regime, then leaves the treaty and acquires nuclear weapons, there is no way other states could be kept away from this." But the "most unpleasant" thing, he stressed, is that the potential possessors of nuclear weapons are in conflict zones, moreover, the overwhelming majority of them are situated in a direct proximity to the Russian or CIS borders. Therefore, Kozyrev said, "what is important for us is not only the Korean issue but the precedent itself, and we cannot allow it to happen."

The international community has various means at its disposal with which to convince the DPRK to refrain from further hasty steps. First and foremost there are diplomatic contacts, which are now being exploited to the full, including those between Moscow and Pyongyang. The minister went on to recall Russia's proposal to convene an international conference on security and the nonnuclear status of the Korean Peninsula.

"One of the most extreme methods for exerting influence in such cases is to impose international sanctions in accordance with a decision by the Security Council," Andrey Kozyrev said. "It is quite obvious that if the DPRK goes as far as wrecking the nonproliferation regime and providing itself with nuclear weapons, then the international community, we included, will have no other option than to use the extreme method, that is, to impose sanctions."

Nevertheless, we believe that their introduction should be only gradual, the minister continued. "We should begin from the milder sanctions of a warning nature," Andrey Kozyrev said. "Considering the present circumstances, the Security Council should work in two directions: Preparing an international conference and, at the same time, defining the possible range of sanctions that may be applied if the DPRK fails to reconsider its policy."

Kozyrev Welcomes Signs From Carter DPRK Visit

LD1706175794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1609 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Yuriy Kozlov]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev got a letter on Friday from United States Secretary of State Warren Christopher with information about ex-President Jimmy Carter's trip to North Korea. Kozyrev told State Duma deputies that the letter was evidence of "an intensive exchange of information through diplomatic channels" about the situation on the Korean peninsula.

The former U.S. President met with the higher leadership of North Korea, including President Kim Il-song. As Christopher's message states, Carter's private mission seems to have given rise to some hope that the North Korean side is closer to an agreement with the world community concerning verification of its nuclear sites.

"I think that can only be welcomed," said Kozyrev. He also added that Christopher, besides describing the results of the mission, cautioned that all the circumstances have yet to be made completely clear.

'Hopeful' in Wake of Visit

MK1806140694 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[Petr Zhuravlev report in the "Position" column: "Andrey Kozyrev: Hopeful Signs Are Emerging"]

[Text] Russian Federation Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has described the situation around the DPRK as "tense." According to him, Pyongyang's actions "contain a potential of direct threat to Russia's security." This concerns its statements on pulling out from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and the IAEA (true, no official documents have been submitted yet) as well as the North Korean specialists' recent "reloading" of their nuclear reactors, which, experts believe, makes their inspection virtually impossible.

The minister said yesterday in the State Duma that the emergence of a nuclear state in a "zone of tension," such as the Korean Peninsula, and also in immediate proximity to our borders, directly affects Russian interests. The situation is complicated by the fact that the majority of "threshold" states (i.e., those that are practically ready to produce nuclear weapons) are located close to Russian Federation borders. So far, Andrey Kozyrev said, they do not announce their nuclear status, and it is important that "none of them should openly defy the nonproliferation regime." "A precedent would be impermissible," he stressed. According to the minister, we already have a neighbor comparable in its nuclear-space potential to the "superpowers" (presumably India—P. Zh.).

One of the last resorts to influence North Korea, Kozyrev said, are sanctions, and if "the DPRK goes to the end in withdrawing from the nonproliferation regime, then the international community will simply have nothing left to do" but apply them. Talking about the position of China (which has so far objected to sanctions), the minister noted that the PRC unequivocally favors a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula and here "our positions coincide," although "there are nuances about the details."

At the same time, Andrey Kozyrev stated, Russia continues to insist on an international conference on the DPRK. Therefore there is no question about an immediate imposition of sanctions so far. Especially considering that, according to Kozyrev, "signs for a hopeful turn of events seem to be emerging." The Russian minister was advised about them by his U.S. counterpart Warren Christopher, who was briefed by Jimmy Carter upon the latter's return from the DPRK.

Kozyrev Interviewed on Korea Situation

PM1706170994 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 pp 1-2

[Interview with Andrey Kozyrev, minister of foreign affairs, by Leonid Mlechin; place and date not given: "The North Korean Lobby in the Duma Is Acting Against Russia's Interests, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, Who Granted an Interview to IZVESTIYA Correspondent Leonid Mlechin, Believes"]

[Text] [Mlechin] Does North Korea really represent a serious danger, and could it become a second Iraq, against which the United Nations had to wage war?

[Kozyrev] I do not believe that North Korea already possesses a nuclear bomb or will create one tomorrow. Experts reckon that this would take Pyongyang between three and seven years.

[Mlechin] Do other Russian departments, which also take an interest in international affairs and security problems, hold the same view?

[Kozyrev] I rely on all information coming into Moscow, and not just the information which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs possesses.

[Mlechin] Do military and political intelligence familiarize you with all the information that they possess?

[Kozyrev] I believe that they familiarize only the president with all the information. We, incidentally, do just the same thing. But we have now arranged a normal mutual exchange.

[Mlechin] Is President Yeltsin dealing with the Korean crisis, or is this a third-rate problem for him?

[Kozyrev] The president himself had talks with South Korean President Kim Yong-sam. Then he spoke with him by telephone. He has also spoken with President

Clinton. Boris Yeltsin approved our proposals, conveyed to the Americans, down to the last comma. Much presidential time has already been spent on this crisis.

[Mlechin] Does the Russian leadership hold a unanimous viewpoint on the policy toward the DPRK, or do disagreements exist?

[Kozyrev] A unanimous viewpoint.

[Mlechin] Is it possible to speak of the existence of a pro-North Korean lobby in Moscow?

[Kozyrev] It exists in the Duma. They are ultranationalists and a certain section of the Communists and Agrarians. I have been struck for the umpteenth time by the perverted nature of their ideas of patriotism. Maybe these people proceed from the premise that the North Korean regime is so good that the bomb would only be good for it—one bomb more in the socialist camp, after all.... But it is striking that ideological sympathies can make people forget the interests of their own country. Do they really not understand that, after North Korea, nuclear weapons would be acquired by regimes which are certainly not socialist and which would threaten our country too?

[Mlechin] If Kim Il-song does not have the bomb, why is the world so alarmed?

[Kozyrev] The chief danger is that the DPRK wants to pull out of the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The nonproliferation setup has hitherto been considered unshakable.

[Mlechin] How does this threaten Russia's interests?

[Kozyrev] First, the Korean Peninsula is, if you like, the near abroad for Russia.

Second, if even one country refuses to observe the nonproliferation regime and gets away with it, then a chain reaction can be expected. Some states are lying in wait, waiting for their turn to come. Unfortunately, they are strung out along the perimeter of Russia's borders or, at any rate, the borders of the CIS. A nuclear belt could be formed along Russia's southern borders by the end of this millennium.

[Mlechin] What is your attitude to the prospect of sanctions?

[Kozyrev] If the DPRK is stubborn and inflexible, if it refuses to cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency, and if it withdraws from the Nonproliferation Treaty, then sanctions are inevitable. We advocate their phased introduction. We should start with a selection of "soft" sanctions. Then, if these prove ineffective, we should move up to tough sanctions. At the same time, we need to draw up a list of sanctions and to prepare for the international conference proposed by us on the problems of the Korean Peninsula.

[Mlechin] What is the purpose of the conference?

[Kozyrev] The DPRK uses various political reasons to justify its actions. Of course, the nonproliferation regime makes no exceptions—the domestic or foreign problems of a state hankering after nuclear weapons are not an issue. There are no circumstances that would justify the acquisition of nuclear weapons.

But the DPRK is experiencing some real political difficulties. And the United States, which is the main butt of Pyongyang's criticism, acknowledges this. So it has entered into talks with the North Koreans. It is an entirely pragmatic and versatile approach.

[Mlechin] How soon can sanctions be imposed?

[Kozyrev] It will take around a month's work for the experts to prepare the package of sanctions. There is no hurry. The sanctions must be mild at the initial stage not only for the DPRK, but also for those imposing them. Preventive sanctions must represent as small as burden as possible for Russia.

[Mlechin] When will your meeting with the U.S. secretary of state take place?

[Kozyrev] On 13 June President Yeltsin and President Clinton instructed me and Secretary of State Warren Christopher to meet as quickly as possible and agree on all this. We were in touch on the telephone the same day. I had the idea of meeting in Brussels in the next few days and, at the same time, finally signing there the "Partnership for Peace" program and launching the "Russia-NATO" program. We would be able to finalize the document in a couple of nights. But the secretary of state said that he had a very busy schedule, so the meeting was postponed until next week. In the meantime we agreed to give the job to the Russian and U.S. representatives in New York. But there too there was an unexpected problem.

We passed our proposals to the Americans on 15 June in a confidential form, since we had agreed to exchange proposals without making them public, to promulgate only the general position. The next day we suddenly discovered that the Americans had already distributed their own draft resolution among the permanent members of the Security Council together with a list of proposed sanctions that no one had discussed.

And it was done in such a way that I was informed of the appearance of this draft by our representative in New York, Yuliy Vorontsov, two hours after it was reported by CNN. When Christopher called me and said he was prepared to meet on 21-22 June...

[Mlechin] In Brussels?

[Kozyrev] Yes, he accepted that idea... I expressed bewilderment over the strange way in which the U.S. mission at the United Nations operates and said that we find it hard even to take this document seriously, because we had agreed on something else. It is a further

example of the hiccups that can occur in relations with the Americans, when top-level accords are undermined by stupid actions.

[Mlechin] North Korea wants to deal with the Americans. Russia appears to be impeding the Americans. And the proposal to hold a conference is something no one particularly wants. So Russia would seem to be on the sidelines...

[Kozyrev] I am actually pleased we are not directly involved in this squabble. Part of our society has an inferiority complex: It thinks we should be first everywhere and in all things. First in ballet, in space, in trade. But not in international scandals. Better to stand aside and say nothing. Our role is to secure the adoption of a sensible resolution in the UN Security Council.

[Mlechin] Isn't the talk of sanctions rather abstract—since China would veto such a proposal?

[Kozyrev] Absolutely right. Therefore submitting a draft resolution with a specific list of sanctions means running into a categorical "no" from China. So our conference proposal is more pragmatic. We should not present one another with a fait accompli, we must work together, and that includes working with China.

[Mlechin] Can one seriously expect sanctions to influence Kim Il-song and his son?

[Kozyrev] Ultimately the sanctions will bite.

[Kozyrev] In the case of Iraq, the international community still had to resort to military action.

[Kozyrev] For the DPRK to develop a bomb it must mobilize its entire potential, but sanctions will damage its economy. Anyway, what choice does the international community have left? Either it does nothing at all, or its responds in some way. Of course, sanctions are not an ideal response, but an extreme measure. But what is the ideal response? Military intervention?

[Mlechin] If the sanctions do not work, will the world settle sooner or later on the need to stop nuclear weapon development in North Korea by military means?

[Kozyrev] It is too early to discuss this. I repeat once again: An international conference is a realistic proposal, not fantasy.

[Mlechin] There are rumors that Boris Yeltsin is prepared to meet with Kim Il-song. Are there any grounds for these rumors?

[Kozyrev] I know nothing of this.

[Mlechin] At what level are you conducting a dialogue with North Korea?

[Kozyrev] We have an embassy in Pyongyang. There is a North Korean embassy here.

[Mlechin] Are Russian diplomats in Pyongyang in contact with sufficiently senior officials?

[Kozyrev] We have normal contacts.

Kozyrev Supports Expanded Conference on DPRK Issue

LD1706165294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1637 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Dmitriy Gorokhov and Yuriy Kozlov]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—Russia has expanded its formula of the international conference on security and non-nuclear status of the Korean peninsula. Moscow thinks that the forum can be attended by other interested states, including France, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told State Duma deputies here today.

"We have suggested the international conference in order to discuss the nuclear problem and security on the Korean peninsula, do away with any concerns of the DPRK as regards its security," said the minister.

"We have suggested a conference with a clear number of participants. These are, first of all, Russia. It is also the United States which concern most of the claims of the DPRK. These are China and the neighbouring states of Japan and the Republic of Korea. Other states, including France, have shown their interest in the conference."

In the opinion of Andrey Kozyrev, France can participate in the forum "the more so it is a nuclear power and a permanent member of the Security Council."

Expulsion of DPRK Embassy Staff Refuted

LD1806163594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1610 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Olga Semyonova]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—"The North Korean [DPRK] Embassy in Moscow does not have to worry: None of its staffers have been 'recently' expelled from Russia or will be expelled in the near future. The stir about diplomat-spies was caused by misinterpretation," head of the Federal Counterintelligence Service's public relations center Aleksandr Mikhailov told ITAR-TASS today commenting on media reports about the expel of North Korean Embassy staffers from Moscow.

In the words of Mikhailov, currently on a Far Eastern trip together with service head Sergey Stepashin, the latter has noted the recently-boosted intelligence activities of some secret services, including those of North Korea, China and Japan. Stepashin thinks a reason for this is the location of Russian nuclear-powered submarine fleet in the region.

As for the North Korean diplomats expelled for the attempts to purchase materiel, it was really so, said

Mikhailov. The Russian counterintelligence, intelligence and border guards held an operation to prevent drug trafficking from the DPRK to Russia before the arrival of Stepashin in the Far East. Some could mix the two events which resulted in misunderstanding, said Mikhailov.

Energy Minister Criticizes Proposed Sanctions

OW1806012294 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 2230 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Interview with Viktor Mikhaylov, Russian minister of atomic energy, by NHK Russian Bureau Chief Kazuo Kobayashi on 17 June; place not given; from NHK news—Mikhaylov in Russian with Japanese translation provided in subtitles; translated from the subtitles]

[Text] Regarding North Korea's suspected nuclear arms development, Russian Minister of Atomic Energy Mikhaylov disclosed his belief on 17 June that North Korea needs more than 10 years before being able to acquire nuclear weapons. He then criticized the movement to impose sanctions, saying that the international community should not isolate North Korea.

Energy Minister Mikhaylov explained his understanding of the attitude of North Korea, which rejected IAEA inspections, saying that the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] is making excessive demands on North Korea. On the current state of North Korea's nuclear arms development, he said as follows:

[Begin Mikhaylov recording] I believe that North Korea does not have nuclear weapons. It will take them from 10 to 20 years, even if they begin producing nuclear weapons right now. [end recording]

[Begin Kobayashi recording] Russia is opposing the movement in the United States and other countries to impose sanctions against North Korea. Foreign Minister Kozyrev said that no prior consultations had been made with Russia regarding concrete proposals on the sanctions. However, the foreign minister's opposition and Energy Minister Mikhaylov's recent remarks reflect their twisted feelings that Russia is being treated lightly.

Russia is saying that not isolating North Korea is a better approach. This is the outcome of such a stance, and is Russia's appeal and advice to the international community. [end recording]

Commentator Stresses International Meeting Importance

SK2006022594 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 1200 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Commentary by Solton from "Today's World" program]

[Text] The UN Security Council began to discuss the U.S. draft resolution calling for sanctions on Korea because it rejected the international inspection of its nuclear sites and withdrew from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. Station commentator Solton writes as follows.

Pyongyang still has a chance to avoid sanctions. This is possible if Korea changes its present position of encouraging suspicion that it already has a nuclear weapon or intends to have one.

The Moscow proposal for the convocation of a multilateral meeting is producing results. This meeting will be able to prevent sanctions. The international meeting can formulate measures for effective steps that will safeguard the sovereignty and security of the North and the South on one hand, and ensure the nonnuclear status of the Korean peninsula on the other hand.

Pyongyang and many other countries admit the appropriateness of the meeting, but the Korean action, particularly the withdrawal from the IAEA, leads people to suspect that it is leading to the North's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. If this is true, the international community has no alternative but to resort to sanctions. This development is very disadvantageous. Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev agrees.

The resolution is to contain such measures as an arms embargo, restriction of financial transactions, and suspension of UN assistance. Yet even if this resolution is adopted, the sanctions will be taken not at one stroke but step by step.

Pyongyang has time to prove to all people that its nuclear project is peace-oriented. Wielding weapons affecting not only Pyongyang, but Washington and Seoul as well, can bring about consequences seriously aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula and the entire Northeast Asian region .

Commentary Views Russian, PRC Stands on Sanctions

SK2006011594 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 1000 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Commentary by (Krichevskiy) from the "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] The DPRK has withdrawn from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. Sanctions against the DPRK are being prepared. How to settle this problem peacefully is still the focus of international attention.

Regarding this, station commentator (Krichevskiy) writes:

"To be or not to be, that is the question." The statement Prince Hamlet asked himself in the famous tragedy written by William Shakespeare is well suited to the current Korean issue. That is, the question is to impose sanctions or not to impose sanctions.

The United States and some other countries are in a hurry. They have already drafted a resolution on phased

sanctions. The draft is going to be discussed by the UN Security Council. It expects a gradual retrenchment of relations with the DPRK [chosongwaui yongyerul tangyebyollo chuksohal kosul naedabogo issumnida] in various fields, such as embargo of weapon exports and suspension of all financial business with Pyongyang. This may result in a blockade [i modun kosun pongswaerul choraehal su issumnida].

Russia expressed regrets over the DPRK withdrawal from the IAEA. Russia is invariably insisting that the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] must be strengthened. Moscow has proposed an international conference of representatives from Russia, the United States, China, the IAEA, and the United Nations.

Regarding sanctions, Russia views that the so-called sanctions should be imposed as the last resort [choehu sudan] under the prevailing situation. Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said on 15 June that imposing sanctions on the DPRK would make the situation develop into extremely unfavorable conditions [sabyonui kukhi pullihan palchon], such as the DPRK's complete withdrawal from the NPT.

China assessed the DPRK withdrawal from the IAEA as an extremely unfavorable turning point [satae palchonui kukhi pullihan chonhwanuro pyongga] and appealed to the United States to maintain tranquility [pyongon].

In light of the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman's recent statement, Beijing is resolutely opposing sanctions and still expects the resumption of peace dialogue between the DPRK and the United States. Regarding this, however, China does not mention any specific grounds for the possibility of resuming dialogue between them. Observers pay attention to Beijing's stern denial of the report that it will render military assistance to Pyongyang.

Chernomyrdin Trip to Italy, U.S. Previewed

PM2006090194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Yuriy Nikolayev and Pavel Vasilyev: "Why Viktor Chernomyrdin Is Heading Abroad"]

[Text]**A Commission in the United States**

Ridding ourselves as rapidly as possible of Cold War relics in the sphere of Russian-American business cooperation—both sides have been working on a solution to this highly important task in recent years. The working trip to the United States by Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin 21-23 June could be the next step along this road. On this occasion the government head is acting in the role of co-chairman of the Russian-American Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Technological Cooperation. He will participate in its third session, to be held at Washington's Jackson Place Conference Center.

According to advance information from reliable sources, in contrast with the two previous sessions this meeting will not only embrace a wider range of questions but will also proceed without previously prepared draft decisions on the issues under discussion: These will be hammered out in the course of debate and reached through consensus. So the experts will have to sweat it out a little and put in some solid work. The sides' efforts will be concentrated in six committees: space, energy, defense sector conversion, the development of business cooperation, ecology, and science and technology.

The forthcoming business meeting, as we can see, promises to be highly interesting and productive. Its results will be expressed not so much in the specific value of prospective deals as in the content of the talks: the thrust lies in developing an all-round Russian-American partnership and establishing a balance of interests in various spheres.

In this sense the Committee for Business Cooperation headed by Ministers Oleg Davydov and Ronald Brown is of vital significance. Its field of vision embraces reciprocal access to the two countries' markets and customs, taxation, and export-import policy. We, of course, are interested in securing recognition—which we already have from the EU—of Russia's status as a country with a transitional economy. The American side wants to break into the Russian market. At the same time it is noted that our products are more competitive than America's, as they cost less owing to cheap labor.

It is planned to sign a number of agreements. But it is still too early to talk about them. Nevertheless, experts preparing the working documents believe that it could prove possible, for example, to sign a treaty on the construction of an international space station (the United States is prepared to allocate $400 million for the first two stages of the project).

The upcoming three days of talks will be complex because eventual agreement will depend not only on the degree of mutual understanding between the Russian and American administrations. Here, indeed, in the experts' view, very few difficulties arise. However, finance for the programs lies in the hands of Congress: Its viewpoint on Russian-American cooperation differs somewhat from that of Bill Clinton's team. Our premier, as is obvious from the preliminary program for the trip, does have a chance to meet with the U.S. congressmen, to talk to America's business community about the projects under preparation, and to harness their support in favor of plans to deepen the bilateral partnership.

It looks as though Viktor Chernomyrdin's U.S. visit will be packed with meetings with business people and invitations from top companies and corporations. The program's details are still being finalized but even now, on the eve of the trip, it is quite clear that some tricky work and a packed and hectic schedule await the Russian premier.

...And a Congress in Italy

On his way to the United States Viktor Chernomyrdin will stop off in Italy to address participants in the 19th International Gas Congress, to be held 20-23 June in Milan.

The largest delegation at this forum will probably be from Russia. Apart from Viktor Chernomyrdin himself, Rem Vyakhirev, president of the "Gazprom" Russian Joint Stock Company, is also expected to deliver a speech. The conference participants have a special interest in Russia because Russia supplies the bulk of Europe's gas. It is characteristic that the conference participants include representatives not only from countries producing gas but from those consuming it too.

It is not ruled out that while in Milan the Russian premier could meet with his Italian counterpart, Silvio Berlusconi.

Chernomyrdin, Clinton To Discuss G-7

LD1906140794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1320 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] Russian Prime-Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin is confident that next July the G-7 countries will grant Russia political membership of their club. The Big Seven are planning to hold a summit conference in Naples.

Talking to newsmen Sunday at a Moscow airport before boarding a flight for Milan where he is to attend a session of the World Gas Union, Chernomyrdin said there was a direct link between his trip to Milan and the Naples summit. He said he would discuss Russian membership of the G-7 club with his Italian counterpart Silvio Berlusconi who is to chair the Naples summit.

When he visited Washington on June 21, Chernomyrdin would discuss the issue with President Clinton. He felt there were no obstacles for Russian integration into the G-7 club.

According to Chernomyrdin Russia wait with a request for economic membership of the G-7 club. Moscow realized, he said, that it could be invited to work on political issues first and only then join G-7 economic efforts.

In Milan Chernomyrdin would be planning to discuss Russian- Italian relations with Prime-Minister Berlusconi and clear up where the two countries stood on the package of agreements he signed in Italy last January.

Chernomyrdin To Discuss Trade

LD1906140994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1231 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] As he visits the United States on June 21 to 26, Russian Prime-Minister Chernomyrdin will raise the problem of discriminatory restrictions in trade relations with Russia.

Talking to newsmen at Moscow's Vnukovo-2 airport before boarding a flight for Milan, Chernomyrdin said the United States had failed to meet its year-old pledge to lift all restrictions on trade with Russia.

According to Chernomyrdin, that although the United States suffered as much damage from the Jackson-Vanik amendment as Russia did, it kept stalling with moves to repeal it. [sentence as received]

Chernomyrdin said Russia wanted equitable relations with, and no special privileges from, the US. It would not tolerate discrimination, he said. Chernomyrdin hoped to find a solution to that problem during his visit to the United States.

His plans to visit the Livermore nuclear center proved, Chernomyrdin said, what progress Russian-US relations had made. Chernomyrdin will be the first Russian leader to visit the top secret center.

Chernomyrdin and the US leaders will be expected to focus on formerly "unmentionable" issues on the order of nuclear cooperation.

Chernomyrdin Arrives in Milan for Gas Congress

LD1906090494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0850 GMT 19 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Aleksey Bulakov and Aleksey Golyayev]

[Text] Milan, 19 June—Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin arrived here today on a working visit to attend the 19th World Gas Congress.

Says Russia Ready To Boost Cooperation

LD2006104894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1024 GMT 20 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Aleksey Bukalov and Aleksey Golyayev]

[Text] Milan June 20 TASS—"Russia and Europe as well as Russia and the world have broad prospects for developing diverse economic and political cooperation. We cannot go without each other," said Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin, speaking at the opening ceremony of the 19th World Gas Congress here on Monday.

The premier stressed that Moscow is waiting for concrete proposals from the G7 countries on cooperation in regulating investment flows and on development of adequate and specific mechanisms for their encouragement and insurance.

"Russia wants that the partners in the coming Naples summit should recognise it as 'a country with a transition economy' and made new concrete moves to improve conditions of access of its goods to foreign markets," Chernomyrdin said.

"I'm sure that the turning of the G7 into a G8 will bring about basically important and positive changes in the geopolitical balance and create new favourable conditions for Russia's full-fledged participation in the world economic system."

Foreign Ministry Statement on Talks With SRV

LD1806134394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0734 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Bychkov]

[Text] Moscow, 18 June—Russia and Vietnam consider the results of Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's official visit to Moscow, which ended 17 June, on the whole to be successful. Russia and Vietnam converge in the opinion that the visit will contribute to future progress in Russo-Vietnamese relations, upgrading them significantly, says a report distributed to the press by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs today.

The ministry notes that the treaty signed by Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Government, and Vo Van Kiet on the bases of friendly relations between the Russian Federation and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam "formulates the basic principles of cooperation between the two countries in light of the changes that have occurred both in Russia and Vietnam and in the international arena on the whole."

Also taking into account the three intergovernmental agreements concluded, which regulate capital investment problems and matters of cooperation in areas such as fishing and the agroindustrial complex, Russia and Vietnam now have approximately 15 intergovernmental documents, the result of work over the past two and a half years.

However, Moscow and Hanoi do not intend to stop there. The two countries' governments have thought it expedient to continue work on compiling a list of the treaties, agreements, and other intergovernmental documents concluded between the former USSR and Vietnam. It is planned to step up efforts to implement existing agreements in practice.

The fuel and power complex, including hydroelectricity, was described at the talks as being among the most promising areas of cooperation. The press release stresses that cooperation between individual regions of the two countries, particularly the Russian Far East and Vietnamese provinces, occupies an important place in the development of Russo-Vietnamese relations.

In discussing the international situation, the governmental heads of Russia and Vietnam confirmed that their views either coincided or were close on most of today's most urgent problems and called for the expansion of constructive cooperation aimed at creating a new, nonconfrontational system of interstate relations in the Asia- Pacific Ocean area and Southeast Asia, in particular.

Foreign Ministers Andrey Kozyrev and Nyugen Manh Cam went into greater detail on matters of international politics. They exchanged opinions on specific ways of coordinating the work of the Foreign Ministries "under the conditions of perceived changes for the better in the international climate."

Leaders Speak at Forum in Switzerland

LD1806072494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0651 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Andrey Krasnoshchekov and Konstantin Pribytkov]

[Text] Crans-Montana (Switzerland) June 18 TASS—The West should switch from aid to East European countries to mutually advantageous and equal cooperation with them, Speaker of the Byelorussian [Belarus] parliament Mechyslav Hryb said in an interview with ITAR-TASS here on Saturday.

According to the speaker, equality in trade and economic relations should mean, above all, "an increase or complete abrogation by the West of export quotas", since only this can evoke interest from both sides.

The idea of the need for establishing equal partnership between East and West European countries key-noted the first two days of the international forum in Crans-Montana devoted to East-West relations. Forum participants spoke about this at plenary meetings, seminars and at intervals between sessions.

In turn, Ivan Korotchenya, executive secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), said in an interview with ITAR-TASS that the West's aid was inefficient to a great extent. For instance, the refusal by Byelorussia to take humanitarial aid has not virtually affected the situation in the republic in any way.

Therefore, he noted, relations between CIS republics and Western partners should be built on quite another basis: to develop contacts at all levels—from small enterprises to state-owned companies. "It is humiliating for our states to receive just aid," the executive secretary said.

The forum is discussing specific projects of cooperation. Korotchenya said that some delegations from CIS countries are already discussing proposals from potential Western partners.

Speaking at a plenary meeting, Swiss Economics Minister Jean-Pascal Delamuraz noted that success of international cooperation would be determined, above all, by stability in East European countries and consistency with which they would pursue reforms.

Interdependence of the countries in the old world has graphically demonstrated itself: The economic slump in the West negatively told on export opportunities from Eastern Europe.

Commercial relations is an important factor for economic growth. "Therefore, our aim should be the development of trade with the East and not aid," he summed up his speech.

In an interview with ITAR-TASS, Moldavian [Moldova] President Mircea Snegur called attention to the fact that the present forum considerably differs from other similar meetings: It examines not only economic but also political problems.

"Economic reforms and the development of relations are linked here directly with measures to ensure political stability on the continent," he stressed. This is of great interest for Moldavia, since "it is forced to overcome the consequences of a short armed conflict in 1992 up to this time".

Kozyrev: Russia Needs No Additional Powers in Abkhazia

LD1706210394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2045 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov and Yuriy Kozlov]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—Russia cannot afford not to hold the peace-making operation in Abkhazia, a zone historically close to it and an area of its major and comprehensive interests, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told the State Duma deputies here today. One cannot abandon peoples Russia lived with in one state in the recent past, he added.

Preparations for the Commonwealth peace-making operation, whose core will be Russian servicemen, have begun. This will be done on request of the Georgian Government and the Abkhazian leadership. The operation will aim to prevent new clashes, ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid and peaceful life in the area.

The peace-making mission in Abkhazia is absolutely lawful, said the minister. Russia does not need any additional powers or "legitimization". An appeal of the sides, including the legitimate government of the sovereign state, and a decision of the Russian constitutional bodies, including the president and the Federation Council, are enough.

Kozyrev hopes that the Russian parliament's upper chamber to re- consider the issue in the immediate future will view the problem in the light of Russian state interests. One should not forget that there is no vacuum in such situations, if Russia refuses to play its geopolitical role, there will be others wishing to bring order in "our common home", said Kozyrev.

Speaking of the Crimean situation, the minister noted that this region is not an international hotbed and the Russian leadership is working to prevent aggravation of the Crimean situation. The minister is sure that the people of the Crimea, a sovereign republic within Ukraine, the Ukrainian people and the people of Russia will solve all the problems calmly and peacefully in a democratic way. It is very important that extremists pushing the peoples towards fratricide do not involve in the situation.

As for the fate of the Russian Black Sea Fleet, Kozyrev reminded deputies of negotiations Russia is holding with Ukraine. "They are very specific and detailed. A regular round of the negotiations has just finished and the impression is more inspiring than it was before. Certain quantitative parameters have been found, and the sides are closer to an understanding that Sevastopol should be the Russian naval base," said Kozyrev.

It seems that the negotiations will be completed or any final decisions will be taken after the Ukrainian elections. Russia, naturally, "will respect the choice of the Ukrainian people and keep business-like mutually beneficial and fraternal relations with any leadership to be elected," said Andrey Kozyrev.

Military Official on Peacemaking Operation

LD1706171394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1612 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—"The need for a peacemaking operation in Abkhazia is evident, the war cannot be stopped without the introduction of peace-makers," First Deputy Head of the Russian Armed Forces' General Staff Colonel-General Vitaliy Zhurbenko told a State Duma plenary here today.

The report was delivered by Zhurbenko instead of Russian Defence Minister General of the Army Pavel Grachev who was absent from the Duma plenary on health reasons.

The general expressed the wish that the peace-making operation to be held in Abkhazia involve not only Russia but also other Commonwealth states. He told the deputies that some 3,000 Russian servicemen - two motorized infantry battalions, three air-borne battalions, engineering units and a helicopter squadron - will be sent to Abkhazia under the plan approved by the Russian president.

Asked about the Russian-U.S. drill at the Totsk grounds, the Orenburg region, Zhurbenko called for their holding bearing in mind the drill aims to train peace-making operations. In his words, a similar drill in the U.S. with Russian participation will cost Russia three or four times more.

Kondratyev Urges Ratification of Edict on Peacekeeping

LD1806153294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Russia's Deputy Defence Minister, Cl.-General Grigoriy Kondratyev, has said he hopes that on Tuesday the Federation Council will ratify the presidential decree on conducting a peace-keeping operation in the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict area.

According to him, if the upper chamber of Russia's parliament resolves this issue positively, military aircraft will start lifting Russian peace-keepers to the conflict area on Wednesday.

There are plans to despatch 5 Russian battalions to the conflict zone. The number of "blue helmets" is to total 25 to 30 hundred men.

This week General Kondratyev visited Abkhazia and inspected the locality, where the disengagement of the conflicting sides is to take place along the River Inguri. "The military have already done all they could to ensure success for the proposed peace-keeping operation," he told Interfax on Saturday.

Black Sea Fleet Vessels To Back Up Abkhaz Operations

LD1706202094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1816 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] A group of Black Sea Fleet vessels staying in the eastern part of the Black Sea began increased interaction with Russian troops in Western Georgia Friday. The operation is directed by the chief of the Black Sea Fleet command point, Rear Admiral Yuriy Nichik, the fleet's press center told Interfax. The goal of the peace-keeping action is to stabilize the situation in the region.

At present, preparation is being carried out for the deployment of Russian troops in the confrontation zone along the Inguri River to ensure security in the region.

In the meantime, another group of Black Sea Fleet vessels headed by the anti-submarine vessel Kerch left Sevastopol for the Greek island Corfu. The group's objective is to ensure the security of Russian President Boris Yeltsin as he attends the European Union summit on June 24-25.

The group is under command of the First Deputy Chief of the Black Sea Fleet staff, Rear Admiral Anatoliy Manchenko.

UN To Be Asked To Give Iraq 'Trial Period,' Then End Embargo

PM1706192794 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Dmitriy Kulik under the "Foreign News" rubric: "Iraq Waits for Zero Hour"]

[Text] For the last six months Smolensk Square has been awash with rumors that Russia will support lifting the embargo against Iraq. Moscow is concerned for the fate of the $7.5 billion which it has lost owing to the embargo. The United Nations decided to clarify just what the thinking is on this score in Moscow, and dispatched Rolf Ekeus, executive chairman of the special commission for the disarmament of Iraq, to us.

Addressing journalists at a briefing, Mr. Ekeus kept repeating phrases like "we have destroyed, closed, mothballed, and dismantled".... Unfortunately, the UN representative carefully side-stepped the problems of proffering aid to the impoverished civilian population of Iraq.

"The question of lifting the embargo on Iraq has been actively whipped up in Russia of late. Have you noticed changes in the Russian approach to this question?"—We couldn't stop ourselves from asking this.

Obviously, the guys in the Kremlin and on Smolensk Square are in resolute mood, as, in his reply, Mr. Ekeus merely mentioned general humanitarian values, saying not a word about Russia's position.

The situation was clarified by a high-ranking staffer from the Foreign Ministry. He reported that, in contacts with the Iraqis, the Russian leadership is demanding a "softening" of their approach. Moreover, Russia intends to propose that the United Nations give Iraq a chance in the form of a six-month trial period. If in this time Baghdad "behaves in a civilized manner," then matters will move on to lifting the embargo. Nor can one forget about the ships containing equipment worth tens of millions of dollars from Russia, destined for Iraq, which, it emerges, have been moored in the harbors of Persian Gulf states for three years already, waiting for its hour to come. Judging by information from Mr. Ekeus and the Foreign Ministry, this hour may come as early as this year.

Duma Speaker Meets German Defense Minister in Bonn

LD1706173494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1610 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Pavel Kuznetsov, Gennadiy Kulbitskiy, Gennadiy Temnenkov]

[Text] Bonn June 17 TASS—"The Russian-German military- technical cooperation should not lag behind the interstate relations," Russian State Duma Speaker Ivan Rybkin told a news conference here today after meeting German Defence Minister Volker Ruehe.

"It was a saturated and constructive conversation to state we are almost ready to discuss the conclusion of a Russian-German intergovernmental agreement on termination of dangerous military activities whose draft has been prepared," said the speaker.

I have invited Volker Ruehe to visit a military settlement in my hometown of Volgograd together with Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev. The settlement is housing officers and soldiers of the 8th Guard Army, the former 62th Army of Marshal V. Chuikov. It is being built with participation of German firms. I am glad to say they are working well. The army was not withdrawn without proper accommodation. It is a good example of Russian-German fruitful cooperation."

In his turn, the German defence minister told the news conference he has accepted the invitation to visit Volgograd with pleasure.

Asked by ITAR-TASS about his attitude to the upcoming Russian signing of the Partnership for Peace program in Brussels on Wednesday, the minister said he is very glad this will be done.

Describing the NATO-Russian relations, he said that European stability cannot be achieved without Russia. This country cannot be treated as Albania or Tajikistan, he said. The minister noted the upcoming Russian-German naval exercises in the Baltic Sea and other exercises scheduled for future. He said none would believe this is possible two years ago.

On the same day the State Duma delegation met Bundesrat head Klaus Wedemeier and State Minister in the German Foreign Ministry Helmut Schaefer.

Meets German Parliamentarians

LD1906142894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1343 GMT 19 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Berlin June 19 TASS—"Russia and Germany are currently going through the process of renewal, which, despite many differences, have much in common. In particular, this concerns Eastern Germany, which offers broad opportunities for cooperation and interaction," said visiting Chairman of the Russian State Duma, Ivan Rybkin, addressing representatives of the Berlin parliamentary assembly in the "Charlottenburg" Castle in Berlin on Sunday.

Rybkin expressed his gratitude for the warm and friendly welcome given to the Russian delegation, saying that "during the period of uneasy economic transformations in Russia cooperation with Germany is of great importance."

Deputy chairman of the Berlin assembly of lawmakers, Reinhard Fuerer, said that Germany regards the visit by the Russian delegation as a contribution to the development of existing contacts and the beginning of new contacts between the two countries at a parliamentary level. "Tremendous changes are taking place both in Russia and in Germany. The Russian Federation has achieved considerable progress on the way to democracy. This is worthy of praise even more, taking into account a complex process of reforms in the country's economy which, at times, poses serious problems to the population. However, these problems and additional hardships should not be used as a pretext for going back on the process of democratisation," the deputy chairman of the Berlin assembly said.

He pointed out that Russia should take a firm place in free europe. "Russia is doing so by taking an active part in U.N. peace- keeping actions. Such efforts arouse respect all over the world, the German lawmaker said.

The chairman of the Russia State Duma made an entry in Berlin's "gold book".

Delegation Visits Berlin

LD1906104894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1027 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] Berlin June 19 TASS—Today, on the last day of an official visit to Germany, a State Duma delegation, led by its Chairman Ivan Rybkin, laid a wreath at the memorial to Russian liberator soldiers in the Treptow Park, Berlin.

After two days of meetings and talks with leaders and prominent politicians in Bonn, Russian legislators arrived in the German capital on Saturday, where they familiarised themselves with the experience of privatization of state enterprises in the eastern part of the country, as well as the examples of the participation of foreign business people in that process. During their visit to the Kvo Kabel plant, which now fully belongs to a British firm and supplies half of its output to Russia, as well as during their conversation with Berlin Burgomaster Eberhard Dipgen members of the delegation got very interesting and useful information, Rybkin told ITAR-TASS. "There should be 101 ways of privatization of state-owned enterprises instead of just one," Rybkin pointed out. He said that at present there are some 1,500 industrial enterprises in Russia which may go bankrupt. In the opinion of Rybkin, their situation calls for a comprehensive approach.

The Russian delegation will have a meeting today with heads of the Berlin chamber of deputies in the Palace of Charlottenburg. The guests will also visit the Reichstag building. In the afternoon of the last day of the visit they will have meetings with the command of the Western Army group and the personnel of the Berlin Brigade.

Ends Visit 19 Jun

LD1906202294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2008 GMT 19 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Berlin June 19 TASS—A delegation of the Russian State Duma led by the Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin ended its visit to Germany on Sunday.

During the four-day visit Rybkin met with the German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and German President Richard

von Weizacker, Bundestag Chairman Rita Suessmuth, government officials, leaders of parliamentary factions and different political parties.

Russian parliamentarians reached an agreement with their German colleagues to develop close cooperation, primarily at the level of the Duma committees and commissions of the German Bundestag dealing with economic issues.

On the final day of the visit Russian lawmakers visited Russian servicemen from the Berlin Brigade of Western Troops. Addressing soldiers and officers of the Russian military contingent who will be the last to abandon the German territory in August, 1994, Rybkin declared that "their motherland would welcome them with a generous heart." Rybkin pointed out that looking into the state budget, lawmakers found "inner reserves" for the Army's needs worth 3.5 trillion roubles. Apart from that, funds are expected to be raised during the second stage of privatisation beginning in July, which, according to experts' estimates, will amount to 15-20 trillion roubles. The State Duma has decided to use these funds, in particular, for the construction of housing for servicemen and conversion projects, Rybkin said.

Late on Sunday the delegation of the Russian parliament left Berlin for Moscow.

Moscow, Tel Aviv To Co-Produce, Sell Aircraft

LD1706194394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1658 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—Russia and Israel have agreed to develop and sell on the world market a new aircraft - the YAK-48- Galaxy. This was announced by President of the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Stanislav Smirnov today. He praised direct contacts between entrepreneurs of the two countries established at the exhibition Israel-94 in Moscow.

Chairman of the Council of Directors and Chief Designer of the Yakovlev Design bureau Aleksandr Dondukov explained that the YAK-48 is an eight-seat government and business aircraft with a unique range of 6,800 kilometers. The contract signed between Russia and Israel provides for the development of the project on the basis of advanced Russian technologies. It will be possible to use engines and electronics made in third countries. The new aircraft will be partially assembled and sold by Israel, which is now controlling 25 percent of the world market for this category of planes.

Dondukov said that the first YAK-48 will be ready in 1995, and its mass production and sale on the world market will begin in 1997.

Yeltsin Directive on Binding Nature of Treaties

PM1706133194 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Jun 94 First Edition p 4

[Text of Russian President's Directive No. 287-rp signed by President Yeltsin on 8 June 1994: "On the Procedure and Timetable for the Submission of Proposals on the Expression of Agreement to the Mandatory Nature for the Russian Federation of International Treaties Liable To Be Presented to the Federal Assembly State Duma"]

[Text] In order to synchronize the process of the enactment of international treaties liable to be presented to the Federal Assembly State Duma;

1. The Russian Foreign Ministry shall, within 10 days and with the participation of the relevant federal executive organs, draw up a list of international treaties liable for immediate submission to the Federal Assembly State Duma.

The federal executive organs shall, within five days, submit the corresponding proposals to the Russian Foreign Ministry.

The Russian Foreign Ministry and also other relevant federal executive organs, either in conjunction with or with the agreement of the Russian Foreign Ministry, shall, in the prescribed manner, present to the president of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Russian Federation for submission in June-August 1994 to the Federal Assembly State Duma proposals on the expression of agreement to the mandatory nature for the Russian Federation of international treaties included in the aforementioned list.

The Russian Foreign Ministry is charged with the coordination of this work, which shall include the submission of the prepared list of international treaties to the president of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Russian Federation as well as the provision of the relevant information to the Federal Assembly State Duma and Federation Council.

2. It is established that proposals on the expression of agreement to the mandatory nature for the Russian Federation of international treaties liable to be submitted to the Federal Assembly State Duma but not included in the list envisaged by paragraph one of the present directive shall be submitted in 1994 as and when the Russian Side is ready [po mere gotovnosti Rossiyskoy Storony].

3. Oversight of the fulfillment of the present directive shall be entrusted to the Russian Federation President's Staff and the Russian Federation Government.

4. The present directive shall go into force from the moment of its signing.

[signed] B. Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation. Directive no. 287-rp, 8 June 1994.

Political Issues

Latest on Implementation of Social Accord Agreement

Filatov Addresses Implementation Forum

LD1806114194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1036 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow June 18 (TASS)—There is a positive thing about the public accord treaty: "The political struggle in Russia ceases to be a political squabble and becomes a political competition," Sergey Filatov, chief of staff of the president's administration, said today. He spoke at a meeting of the public chamber under the Russian president. The public chamber discussed the implementation of the treaty, signed by 863 representatives of power structures, regions, parties and public organisations.

Filatov believes at the same time that it is too early for democratically-minded reformers to relax in conditions of relative political stability. In his opinion, "a period of an easy-term credit of confidence for the reformers is over."

He urged the like-minded people to combine two principles in their ideology—patriotism and democracy, and on their basis to work for accord in society. In order to work out a strategy of joint actions, the reformers will hold a forum of democratic forces next autumn in Moscow.

The purpose of today's meeting of the public chamber was to set up five commissions included in it—on political stability, on socio-economic problems, on the federal setup and inter-ethnic relations, on the safety of individuals and the security of society and on problems of science, education and culture. Those commissions were assigned the task of organising control over the implementation of the public accord treaty and drawing up recommendations to be approved at meetings of the public chamber.

Agrarians May Sign Accord Agreement

LD1906143294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1231 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] On Sunday Russian Vice-Premier Aleksandr Zaveryukha told Interfax that the Agrarian party, its faction in the State Duma and the Central Committee of the Union of Workers of the Agro-Industrial Complex could yet be expected to sign the civic accord agreement after they met, to clear up positions, with President Yeltsin on June 27.

The Vice-Premier in charge of agriculture was elected a member of the State Duma on the ticket of the Agrarian party which brings together almost 200,000 men and women. Russia's one and only Agrarian labor union boasts a membership of almost 16 million.

According to Zaveryukha, the Agrarians had failed to sign the civic accord agreement owing to differences of opinion on government support for the agro-industrial complex. In addition, he said, the labor union and the government differed on the issue of social insurance.

But, Zaveryukha said, the Agrarian faction in the State Duma supported the president- and government-backed draft of the Federal budget although those who had signed the civic accord agreement opposed the draft.

Public Chamber To Have 5 Commissions

LD1806165394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1523 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] The Public Chamber under President Yeltsin upheld Sergey Filatov's proposal for focusing on the realization of the civic accord agreement on June 23. Filatov is the chief of staff under Boris Yeltsin.

The Public Chamber is to have commissions on political stability, social and economic problems, administrative makeup and interethnic relations, security, and science research, education and culture.

The five commissions will be expected to supervise the realization of the civic accord agreement and offer advice to the conciliatory commission.

In Filatov's view, they must have a membership of twenty nine and bring together representatives of political movements and parties, parliamentary factions, public organizations, labor unions, religious communities, etc.

Arkadiy Volskiy, Mark Masarskiy, Anatoliy Dolganov, Viktor Andreyev and Vladimir Kudriavtsev were presented as choices for the commission's chairmen. According to Filatov, they represent "a wide spectrum of the Russian public" because their political affiliations as well as jobs they hold are very different.

Soskovets Appointed Chairman of Russian-Tatar Commission

LD1906144194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0943 GMT 19 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 19 June—By a decision of Russian President Boris Yeltsin a commission has been set up on a parity basis from representatives of the executive bodies of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tatarstan for the purpose of implementing government agreements and the treaty between the Russian Federation and Tatarstan on dividing areas of responsibility and mutually delegating powers by state bodies of the federation and the republic, and supervising their fulfilment.

By the same presidential decision, which was signed on Saturday [18 June], Oleg Soskovets, first vice prime minister of the Government of the Russian Federation, was appointed chairman of the commission.

Ex-Premier Ryzhkov Denies Presidency Rumors

LD1906163794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1616 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] Former USSR prime minister Nikolay Ryzhkov denied rumors that he had agreed to run for Russian presidency.

Aleksandr Sterligov, the leader of the opposition Russian National Assembly, and Sazhi Umalatova, chairperson of the so-called permanent presidium of the USSR Congress of People's Deputies, had mentioned the possibility of nominating Ryzhkov for presidency in their public addresses.

Ryzhkov told Interfax that Sterligov and Umalatova expressed their personal views when they spoke of him as a man who could rally all opposition forces for the forthcoming presidential elections.

He admitted that numerous people think that he might be helpful in consolidating society to an extent.

Ryzhkov assumed that his name was mentioned because people were tired of radicalism in any form, from Yegor Gaydar's shock therapy to Zhirinovsky's promises. Ryzhkov said that he had never shared extreme views but stayed somewhat left of the center.

He did not believe the opposition-spread rumors that Boris Yeltsin intended to call pre-term presidential elections next fall or to extend his and the Federal Assembly's terms.

Ryzhkov, 64, was the USSR's prime minister in 1985-90. Now he heads the Moscow Intellectual and Business Club and chairs the board of the Tveruniversalbank.

Gaydar Party Yeltsin's 'Political,' 'Strategic' Ally

LD1806185294 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Interview with Yegor Gaydar, leader of Russia's Democratic Choice party by correspondent Medvedev in an unidentified office setting; date not given; from the "Novosti" newscast—recorded]

[Text] Yegor Timurovich, the congress is over and now one can sum up some of its results. It seems to me that people and, in particular, journalists, are wondering who exactly acquired who. Was it you who acquired the Olbi firm or the Olbi firm acquired you, the Democratic Choice party?

[Gaydar] We thought that the first two jokes might be something like this—the Russia's Choice party bought a bit of Olbi and the latter, Olbi, bought a bit of Russia's Choice.

[Medvedev] Do you look upon such jokes with a sense of humor or do you take them seriously?

[Gaydar] I approach them with a sense of humor. I treat this as something inevitable.

[Medvedev] It was your idea that Oleg Boyko [chairman of the party's executive committee] was one of the party's leaders. Why?

[Gaydar] Without any doubt, our party needs intelligentsia and entrepreneurs. It should not be a party of just intelligentsia or a party of just entrepreneurs. In my view, we do better when intelligentsia joins forces with entrepreneurs and we fail when they act separately. In connection with this, the idea of including a respected and prominent entrepreneur in the party's leadership was the right one.

[Medvedev] The president did not send his regards or any message of greetings to the congress, so your relations with the president remain somewhat unclear. It was officially stated in the press some time ago that you still were the presidential party.

[Gaydar] I really do not like the word "presidential" party. It evokes an image of orderly files of top officials under the president's command joining the party. I do not think the president likes it too much either.

We are the party that is without doubt a political and strategic ally for the president. This, however, does not mean that there are no disagreements between us and him. For instance, an edict on the fight against organized crime was published this week. I am convinced that it is a mistake. I am convinced that violation of human rights cannot be justified by invoking most serious situation with criminality. I am convinced that attempts to fight crime by curbing human rights cannot result in anything but administrative racketeering, arbitrariness, and extortion of bribes. I very much hope the president will review his decision, that he will listen to our arguments.

Nonetheless, despite our disagreements even on important matters, I am convinced that on the most vital matters of Russia's future, Russian democracy and reforms in Russia, we are allies and our views coincide.

[Medvedev] It is clear from the party manifesto what its aim is. It is to win, to win the elections. What is not clear is who will be the main candidate. If the president decides to continue his campaign for the presidential post, will Gaydar fight against him, or will he withdraw from the race? Or is it too early to ask?

[Gaydar] We will do everything within our powers to ensure that a single democratic candidate with the best chance of success is put forward and backed. No one's personal ambitions, including mine, God forbid, will stand in the way.

[Medvedev] Do you think that with the existing disagreements between yourself, say, Sergey Shakhray [leader of

the Party of Russian Unity and Accord], and Grigoriy Yavlinskiy [leader of the YabLoko bloc], is it possible to have a single candidate?

[Gaydar] Well, I think President Yeltsin is the most likely choice.

Gaydar Reaffirms Zhirinovskiy as 'Fascist'

PM2006125594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 2

[Article by Yegor Gaydar: "Will Zhirinovskiy Avoid Public Trial?"]

[Text] In December last year I said publicly that Mr. Zhirinovskiy reminds me of Hitler in 1929. Zhirinovskiy took offense and sued me.

Explaining and developing my metaphor, I published an article in IZVESTIYA under what seemed to me the quite expressive headline "Gambling on Scoundrels." The main content of the article came down to the idea that Zhirinovskiy's political activity was ideally suited to the definition of "fascist" and that he himself in terms of some of his personal features could serve as a graphic illustration in a museum on the history of fascism.

This article seems to have made a powerful impression on Zhirinovskiy. As far as I can judge (I express myself so cautiously because information on his behavior is never accurate) he did two things. First he withdrew his lawsuit, explaining he was satisfied with the explanations I gave in my article. That is, this can be assessed as meaning that previously Zhirinovskiy did not guess he was a fascist but now that he has read the article and thought about it he has realized that yes, he is a fascist. Which satisfied him, and there he stopped. But there immediately followed a second action: Zhirinovskiy is suing me again, for the same article!

I admit that from my viewpoint there is a certain contradiction between these two actions. I adhere to old-fashioned logic in which there is no third option. Either something is or it is not. Either he is satisfied with the article or he is not.

But obviously Zhirinovskiy's logic is different. I cannot say it surprises me, it is in fact a pure example of the logic and conduct of a fascist politician. A small example of how demagoguery and lies are promoted as an example and taken to the limit, to the absurd.

Therefore as long as a fascist is not in power his words and actions cause tittering and are declared a farce. As soon as he comes to power the titters turn to groans and farce to tragedy.

It is not the pleasantest task to rake over piles of absurd, fantastic lies which he scatters at every step with unusual ease and shamelessness, trapping the credulous with this bait. It is simpler to keep quiet or to turn away squeamishly. But in the case of fascists keeping quiet means indulging them. So I shall unconditionally do everything in my power to ensure that there is a public trial of Zhirinovskiy, a public trial of fascist ideology and propaganda in our country.

Presidential Republic of Russia Party States Aims

LD1906082694 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0600 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] The new inter-regional Presidential Republic of Russia [Rossiya-Prezidentskaya Respublika] Party intends to promote the benefits of presidential power and supply broad social support for the institution of the presidency in the Russian Federation. The party was set up at a meeting in Samara by representatives of Samara, Penza, Ryazan, Ulyanovsk, and Saratov Oblasts and the Chuvash Republic.

Clash Between Skokov, Shmakov Bodes Ill for Trade Unionists

MK1806133694 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 3

[Yekaterina Achalova report: "FITUR Board Plenum. Trade Unions Change Ally"]

[Text] Addressing yesterday's sitting of the executive committee of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia [FITUR], Federation head Mikhail Shmakov accused Yuriy Skokov of attempting to break up the FITUR and create on its basis another trade union organization. The sharpness of the accusation was provoked by the fact that Skokov is building contacts with regional trade unions bypassing the FITUR's central leadership and actually stripping them of control.

Earlier, the FITUR cooperated with the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs [RUIE] whose president Arkadiy Volskiy masterminded the creation of a Trilateral Conciliation Commission—the RUIE, the FITUR, and the government—so that trade unions could refer their demands directly to the government. In the wake of October 1993 the government stopped delegating its ranking representatives to the commission's sessions, which rendered the RUIE's cooperation with the FITUR less interesting. When Volskiy's centrists suffered complete defeat in the December elections and finally departed the list of influential political forces, all reasons for FITUR-RUIE cooperation were totally lost. Trade unions bosses and entrepreneurs started to look around for new partners.

An apolitical mode of life under the leadership of Mikhail Shmakov looked to union bosses not exciting enough, and they started to look for a new Big Brother for political gambles. Producers of commodities suited the role best. Four major trade unions associations of the Urals, Siberia, the Northern Caucasus, and the Central Volga, decided to secure support from Skokov and signed an interaction agreement with him.

This agreement may soon lead to a split of the Federation. Offended by the behavior of Skokov, who ignored all proposals for a meeting and who played up to his subordinates behind their boss's back, Mikhail Shmakov intends to press for the annulment of the agreement. But since the FITUR is a typical example of a political partner always on the lookout for someone to form a bloc with, it is doubtful that union officials will listen to their chairman and give up so opportune an idea as an alliance with Skokov.

Filatov: Crime Approaching Emergency Proportions

LD1806151994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Sergey Filatov, leader of the presidential administration, declared that the criminal related situation in Russia "is on the brink of an emergency one" and this explains the necessity of Boris Yeltsin's decree on urgent measures to protect the population from banditism and organized crime.

"When as many as ten explosions are registered over 24 hours, it means that bandit formations force their ideology of life to the society," he said in his interview with Interfax Saturday.

At the same time Filatov pointed out that part of the society expresses its disagreement with Yeltsin's decree due to the provision on possible detention of the suspected for 30 days. He recognized that this method "has been actually taken from the decree on the state of emergency."

In Filatov's opinion, those, who say that this provision of the presidential decree should be compensated in the legal sense "by removing the old fear of the people in the face of the unrestricted power of the law enforcement bodies," are quite right. Filatov believes that it is possible to achieve this involving the conciliatory commission in charge for the implementation of the Agreement on Public Accord.

Filatov is known to be chairman of this commission.

Stepashin on Establishing New Anticrime Directorate

LD1706223994 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2100 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] A special directorate for searching and detaining criminals will be set up in Russia in the very near future, Sergey Stepashin, director of the federal counterintelligence service, has said at a news conference in Vladivostok. He also said the special services of Japan, North Korea, and China had recently stepped up their activities in the Maritime Kray.

Replying to a question by an ITAR-TASS correspondent on how, in the light of the latest decree by the Russian president on the immediate measures to protect the population against banditism and other forms of organized crime, local counterintelligence and interior directorates would interact, Stepashin said the federal counterintelligence service next week would sign an agreement with Viktor Yerin, interior minister of the Russian Federation, which would define the interaction and division of powers between the two departments. In Sergey Stepashin's words, it has been decided to put an end to competition between the departments. From now on counterintelligence officers, jointly with the interior ministry, will deal in real earnest with cases of corruption in the top echelons of state power and a number of organized crime groups using the channel of international terrorism and drugs smuggling. The federal counterintelligence service will help the interior ministry with equipment.

Sergey Stepashin said the president in the very near future would sign a decree setting up a special directorate in the federal intelligence service and territorial directorates, accordingly. Thus, counterintelligence will get the opportunity to participate directly in searching, detaining, and eliminating those who encroach upon the law and people's rights and lives.

The director of the federal counterintelligence service also visited the major port town of Nakhodka.

Rumored Power Struggle in Prosecutor's Office

MK1806142594 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[A.I. report: "Cadres Are Paramount. Will The Military District Prosecutor Also Be Kicked Out?"]

[Text] A tough, under-the-rug struggle seems to be proceeding in the Russian Federation General Prosecutor's Office, where Aleksey Ilyushenko is still the acting prosecutor. Yet one can only judge of this indirectly. Thus, recently three deputy general prosecutors at once lost their posts, whereupon Ilyushenko got around to department chiefs. In the very near future the entire leadership of the Moscow Military District Prosecutor's Office could also be replaced. District prosecutor Mikhail Kislitsyn, who lately closed the Terekhov case over the 3-4 October events following an amnesty, has obviously annoyed Ilyushenko. Even so, the acting prosecutor has not as yet countermanded Kislitsyn's decision (which he has every right to do) and it is not ruled out that he will soon invoke his other powers: to appoint and dismiss personnel. Rumor has it that an order to remove Kislitsyn is pending.

Kislitsyn was appointed to his post only a few months ago. It is known that recently he was offered the position of deputy chief military prosecutor, which he refused for unknown reasons. At that time, the vacancy unexpectedly went to Stanislav Gaveto, who has been serving in Moscow all these years. It is not clear what has brought about his rise. This is a question for Valentin Panichev, who heads the Military Prosecutor's Office. Up till now Gaveto has held secondary positions. It is not ruled out,

however, that the appointment has been made on Ilyushenko's initiative and is aimed at getting rid of Panichev himself, one of the few deputies who have survived the purge in the General Prosecutor's Office.

Plan To Merge Intelligence Agencies Rumored

PM1706114194 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jun 94 p 1

[Untitled "Own Information" report]

[Text] NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA has learned from unofficial sources that Federal Counterintelligence Service [FCS] chief S. Stepashin is aware of plans to merge the Main Protection Directorate, which is accountable to the president, and the FCS. But it is not yet known who will be the new department's chief—Barsukov (Main Protection Directorate) or Stepashin himself. However, in his memoirs B. Yeltsin gave a high appraisal of the Kremlin commandant's flair and professionalism.

Media Issues

Kozyrev Demands More Responsibility From Media

LD2006103594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0918 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Text] The media can play a negative role in Russia's political life, said Russia's Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, addressing on Monday the International Conference on the Role and Responsibility of the Media in the Development of Democracy and Tolerance.

"The recent parliamentary elections showed that a pathetic political dwarf and scandalous figure can turn into a leader of a parliamentary party due to a few snappy appearances on TV," he said without disclosing the name of the politician he meant.

He believes that the danger of nationalism is still threatening the country and that chauvinism and nationalism are evident in many democratic publications.

He urged reporters to quote official statements more exactly, providing critical comments on them. "This will help highlight the authors' idiocy," he said.

Paper Appeals for Help To Meet Law-Publishing Requirements

PM2006103494 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Jun 94 First Edition p 1

["Open letter to the president, the prime minister, the chairman of the Federation Council, and the chairman of the State Duma," signed by ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA's chief editor and general director; date not given: "How Will ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA Implement the Law?"]

[Text] We are addressing you in connection with the adoption and publication of the federal Law "On the Procedure for the Promulgation and Entry Into Force of Federal Constitutional Laws, Federal Laws, and Enactments of the Chambers of the Federal Assembly." Article 4 contains a specific instruction—that the official promulgation of laws and acts is deemed to consist in the first publication of the complete text in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA.

We had been expecting this law. And we recognize that it not only does the newspaper an honor, but also imposes a great responsibility on it. It is necessary promptly and accurately to convey to the mass reader (whether he lives centrally, in a remote area, or abroad) the documents by which Russians are to live.

The technological process for the publication of these documents has been developed. ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA's printing and distribution network, though not perfect, is effective and has good prerequisites for development and improvement. And that is the main thing. Many people print documents, but to do it like this—with a large print run, on a specific day, reaching every corner of the country, reaching the precise destination—probably only ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA can do this now.

Our awareness of the importance of this task is what makes the editorial collective perform real miracles, despite extremely meager budget financing. Having taken over the newspaper with huge debts in October 1993, in order not to stop producing the paper we were forced to put the editorial staff on starvation rations, cut the number of employees, make economies literally everywhere, and constantly reallocate money and paper. But the main thing is that the editorial office started to make money. Although the government finances only just over one-third of the cost of producing the newspaper, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA is still coming out. Primarily because the editorial office itself covers a further one-third of the newspaper's budget.

So it transpires that today we and the government are equal partners. It was not easy: Just you try to make money starting not from zero (Khasbulatov's ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA was 100-percent state subsidized), but from a large minus number (debts). And without selling out to commercial structures, from which there were tempting offers.

All the same, with an editorial budget deficit of one-third, it has not been possible to avoid production stoppages. Readers in St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, Saratov, Rostov, Krasnodar, Irkutsk, and other cities failed to receive copies of ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA containing edicts, laws, decrees, and directives. In some of those cities production of the newspaper stopped for a month or more.

We are reaping the fruits now. Although even preliminary subscription figures for the second half-year are not yet available, a marked reduction in the number of subscribers can be confidently predicted.

Frankly speaking, this is advantageous to the editorial office in economic terms—it means fewer losses. But in terms of building a rule-of-law state, Russia loses a great deal. These losses cannot be measured against economic benefits.

And now we have this law. Of course, we will implement it. But we are not yet capable of taking this burden on our own shoulders alone.

[Signed] Chief editor, General director

Economic Issues

Chernomyrdin Has 'No Disagreements' With Yeltsin

LD1906085094 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] There are no disagreements between the Russian president and the chairman of government, Viktor Chernomyrdin said today talking to journalists before leaving by air for Italy.

The head of the Russian Government stressed that he has had no disagreements with Boris Yeltsin from the start and he does not have them now. Nevertheless, there are forces which would like to create the impression of such disagreements, Viktor Chernomyrdin said.

Among the government's priority tasks for the next month, he mentioned the beginning of the second stage of privatization, the curbing of inflation at the level of the last few months, and the improvement of conditions for direct investments in the Russian economy.

This was an RIA report.

Hopes Duma Approves 1994 Budget

LD1906141494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1231 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] Russian Prime-Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin hopes that on June 22 the State Duma will endorse the final draft of the Federal budget for 1994.

Talking to newsmen at Moscow's Vnukovo-2 airport before boarding a flight for Milan, Chernomyrdin said the Federation Council, too, would be able to see what was what in the economy and would endorse the budget.

According to Chernomyrdin, the Duma committees had done a great job. After the draft budget was presented to the Duma on May 11, he said, they came out with more than 300 amendments to that document. Doing it all over again would make no sense, Chernomyrdin said. His impression was, some individuals were simply afraid to have nothing to do.

In Chernomyrdin's view, it was about time for the government to work on a draft budget for 1995, instead of going back to what it had already done.

Chernomyrdin said the government had pledged to come out with a draft budget for 1995 in September.

Predicts End of Industrial Recession in Jul

LD1906142094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1231 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] Viktor Chernomyrdin felt Industrial recession could be over in Russia as early as next month. An analysis of economic developments gave hope for that, Chernomyrdin told a reporter for Interfax before boarding a flight for Milan, on Sunday. The key economic indices showed no recession in June, he said, so that next month Russia could establish itself on a bridgehead for economic stabilization.

Chernomyrdin saw financial stabilization as one of his main achievements. He felt that in conformity with government plans monthly inflation rate would not top 7 to 9 percent at the end of 1994. Action could, but would not, be taken to reduce inflation rate to zero, he said.

The Chernomyrdin Cabinet assigned priority to work on the second stage of its privatization scheme, the endorsement of a final draft of the country's budget for 1994, the solution of the problem of delayed payments and an analysis of the economic developments of the first six months of 1994.

It was also essential, he said, that the government move to lure more investment, including domestic, in the economy. Foreign investment was equally important, he said.

On June 27 he would call a sitting of the investment policies council. The world's leading business executives had been invited to attend, he said.

Cabinet Sums Up 6-Month Economic Performance

PM2006130194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Nikolay Gorlov under the "In the Government" rubric: "Russian Economy Enters Market Although This Did Not Come Easy to It"]

[Text] The results of the country's economic growth in the first half of the year were summed up at yesterday's Russian Federation Government session. The period in question does not end for another two weeks but, because all manner of rush jobs have been consigned to oblivion, the Council of Ministers deemed it necessary to draw conclusions on the basis of preliminary data from the State Committee for Statistics and the Economy Ministry. Especially as the situation in the economy has become more or less predictable.

There were no revelations at the government session. The steady economic decline, which manifests itself particularly sharply in machine building and light industry, continues. On the whole we have "slimmed down" by over one-fourth compared with the middle of last year. The production of agricultural produce and electricity and the extraction of fuel and energy raw materials are decreasing, albeit at a slower rate. The volume of mutual nonpayments is increasing, and unemployment is making it presence felt increasingly strongly. The deficit of the still unapproved federal budget is balancing at a critical level.

Yet in the government's opinion there are no grounds for panic. The main encouraging conclusion is that the Russian economy—albeit in a bumbling fashion and battered and bruised—has entered the market. Certain islets of stabilization, operating on purely market principles, are appearing. Inflation has sharply dropped its pace and become practically controllable. The domestic market is becoming increasingly saturated and balanced. A steadily positive foreign trade turnover has developed. The population's real money incomes increased 11 percent compared with last June, and citizens' savings are growing at a fast rate.

On the whole the first—voucher—stage of privatization is ending successfully and the program for its second stage, whose implementation will begin as early as 1 July, has been promptly worked out. In this context an upswing in investment activity can be expected. A program to reorganize and bankrupt unprofitable enterprises, which indicates the beginning of practical work to structurally reorganize the economy, has been coordinated with monetary privatization.

Many problems regarding the creation of a normative base for reforms have been solved. The latest "economic" edicts of the Russian Federation president have made an important contribution to this. In general, it was noted at the government session, the main preconditions enabling the gradual revival of our economy to begin have been created.

The main problem now is maybe that the ministries and departments responsible for economic transformations are late in creating mechanisms for implementing decisions made by the president and government.

The Council of Ministers session also discussed progress in implementing the Russian Federation president's edicts on economic reform questions, questions concerning price formation in the energy complex and in transport, and questions concerning the rate of insurance contributions to the social insurance fund, as well as the draft Russian Federation Law "On Making Amendments and Additions to Certain Russian Federation Legislative Acts in Connection with the Adoption of the Russian Federation Law 'On the Status of Servicemen.'"

'Optimism' of Deputy Economy Minister Cited

PM2006112394 Moscow TRUD in Russian 17 Jun 94 p 1

[Unattributed report from the "This is the News" roundup: "Optimism Against Gloomy Background"]

[Text] "On the whole, the necessary conditions for advancing along the path of reforms have been created in society," Russian Federation First Deputy Minister for the Economy Yakov Urinson declared yesterday at a government sitting, summing up the preliminary results of the first six months of 1994.

By his assertion, the government program adopted earlier to stabilize the situation in the economy is beginning to show "tangible, positive results, and talk about the collapse and fatal line of the economy are unsubstantiated."

As for specific figures, however, according to data from the Ministry for the Economy the GDP (in fixed prices) fell by almost 18 percent compared to the same period last year. Overall, the volume of industrial output went down by 27 percent, falling by almost half in the machine building and metalworking sectors.

According to expert evaluations, money supply will increase by roughly 60 percent (8 percent per month). Inflation, by comparison with December of last year, will comprise around 90 percent. Industrial producers' wholesale prices will double.

Directors' Response to Economy Edict Viewed

PM2006095994 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 2

[Report by Irina Savvateyeva: "Directors Face Choice: Contract or Privatization?"]

[Text] It would seem that the broad working masses of officials and the no less broad masses of politicians who form the image of the centrist statesmen have gotten their way: The president has signed a document whose aim is to increase the controllability of state property. But the edict "On Some Measures to Ensure State Control of the Economy" will hardly cause them great delight.

Because what this document presupposes is by no means the approach toward the problem of increasing controllability which the centrist statesmen had in mind when criticizing the authorities for their idleness. After all, in proclaiming their slogans the supporters of a certain section of the directors' corps were in fact seeking primarily an increase in state financing.

The edict abolishes the directors' sinecure—the mechanism for complete economic control which enabled the leaders of state enterprises in fact to privatize their plants and factories in their own interests.

What has happened until now? The director at the enterprise was the full master of the situation. I do what I want and no one has the right to punish me, still less dismiss me. But now the state will conclude contracts with directors for the right to manage their own property. These contracts will guarantee what is far from a comfortable existence: All kinds of "compensations," "social guarantees," "size of guaranteed remuneration," and so on and so forth....

But the leader's responsibility for economic results is also established. And there is even "material liability for damage caused to the enterprise as a result of the action or inaction of the enterprise leader." If the state does not like the manager it has hired, the contract can be dissolved.

If property at the enterprise is joint-stock property and the state owns only part of it, it delegates its representative to the joint-stock company's management organs. This representative must coordinate with the federal organs of executive power or the Russian federal property fund the most important questions of the enterprise's activity, which will be put to the vote. For instance, questions like the introduction of changes and alterations to joint-stock companies' charter documents, the alteration of the size of incorporation capital, the appointment of persons under contract to organs of management and control.

Without the state's agreement the joint-stock company will not now be able to obtain credit of more than 10 percent the size of the company's net assets, to sell or mortgage its real estate, or to take part in the creation of other enterprises or in the financing of industrial groups. In brief, the first obstacles have been erected to the pilfering of state property.

There is no doubt that the question arises: Will the edict operate effectively? Obviously problems will arise. They always arise where the need for any agreements appears. They arise if only because the mechanism of state control of enterprises in the transitional period is not harmonious in general, because to this day there is a vigorous surreptitious interdepartmental struggle for the right to control this process.

And it is still far from clear who will win this struggle....

But in any case, Sergey Pavlenko, leader of the Russian Government's working center for economic reforms, believes, this edict will be a serious spur to enterprise leaders finally deciding whether they should carry out privatization in full and become absolutely free and independent, including independent of state financial support, or still wait for state financing. But then they can forget all the delights of full economic control, reveal all sources of income, and, essentially, become ordinary hired managers in the state's service.

Edicts Linked to 'Unprecedented' State of Economy

LD1706131794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1258 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Alexandrova]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—The package of decrees concerning Russia's economic development signed by President Boris Yeltsin in May and June is closely linked to the unprecedented situation in the country's economy at present, according to Aleksandr Livshits, the leader of the president's group of experts.

Livshits told a press conference here today that the distinguishing feature of the situation is that the inflation rate has been relatively moderate over the past four months, which brought down the inflation expectations of the population, and no production slump was registered in the first half of June from May. "It was necessary to make full use of this circumstance," the economist stressed.

Aleksandr Livshits said the reaction to the economic decrees in Moscow and the country as a whole was "restrained but positive".

The decrees are not ideal, particularly those among them which call for more discipline, Livshits admitted. But few people have rejected them out right. As concerns statements about the unconstitutional character of some provisions, Livshits noted that some of the documents deal with problems which are not covered by federal legislation at all. It is possible that some provisions may be at variance with legislation but "none of the decrees transcends the boundaries of the president's message on the state of the nation which was supported by the State Duma", or the boundaries of the obligations assumed by the president and the government under the Treaty on Civic Accord.

He also pointed out that the use of decrees "to boost reforms is a forced measure," but the president had "displayed patience long enough". If the State Duma steps up activity in law making, there will be no need for presidential decrees at all, Livshits said. It would be ideal to have the presidential decrees "dissolved" in subsequent federal laws.

Livshits drew particular attention to the decree concerning the activity of foreign banks in Russia. He described it as "the most dramatic of them all", and the story of its preparation as "a plot for an interesting tale". The question was not whether to let foreign banks into Russia but when and what terms. There is no indicator of the most appropriate time, it is a question of political intuition. "It was necessary to sense the almost invisible edge to walk on", without infringing on the rights of either foreign or Russian banks. According to Livshits, the choice was made correctly. The decree allows five or six foreign banks, which already have licenses, to begin operations in Russia from July this year instead of

January 1, 1996. As concerns new licencing, decisions on this will be made by the Central Bank of Russia, depending on the conditions one or another country provides for Russian banks. On the whole, the agrement on partnership and cooperation between Russia and the European Union, which will be signed soon, will "clear up considerably" the problem of relations with foreign banks.

In the field of the taxation policy, Livshits said, a tougher tax paying discipline will be enforced ("this decree will meet with most resistance," Livshits said). All tax benefits will be annulled, and the enterprises will be prohibited from settling accounts in cash, which enable them to evade taxation.

Adviser Views Next Privatization Stage

LD1806145994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] President Yeltsin's senior economic adviser Aleksandr Lifshits said, in Saturday's interview with Interfax, that the next stage of the government's privatization scheme must be presented to the people as a federal law.

All decisions on further privatization must be made by joint effort, Lifshits said. He predicted that Moscow and the provinces would debate the right to sell formerly state-owned property and said there would be problems with the division of revenues and different views of who was to control the stocks which had fallen into the government's lap.

The Russian legislature was to decide whether the Russian government or the State Property Committee would be entitled to sell the country's major industrial enterprises.

In Lifshits' view, it would be very difficult to pass appropriate legislation, "more difficult, in fact, than have a national budget approved by the Federal Assembly". But, he said, Federal legislation must underlie moves for more privatization, or else there would be a collision of different views. Lifshits hoped, however, that different approaches would be discussed "in a civilized manner" without hindering work for civic accord.

Military & Nuclear Issues

Yeltsin To Cut State Order to Defense Industry

LD1806091094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0907 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By itar-tass correspondent tamara zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow June 18 TASS—The next package of the president's economic decrees will contain a decree on the dramatic reduction of mobilisation plans and reserve capacities at enterprises of the defence complex. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy Aleksandr Shokhin announced today at a meeting of the public chamber under the president of the Russian Federation.

According to Shokin, the purpose of the decree is to promote the working out of a new military doctrine and to reduce the state order to the defence industry.

It is worth recalling that during his recent tour of the country Yeltsin mentioned the forthcoming reduction of the army from three million to 1.5 million and urged enterprises of the defence complex to take up conversion. "The Russian Army does not need a large amount of armaments. It needs mobile military hardware, which can stand competition at the domestic and foreign markets," the president said. His stand has been reflected in the forthcoming decree.

Interior Ministry Troops To Be Increased

LD1806145894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] The operative units of Russia's Interior Ministry troops will be increased by 52,000 men, said President Boris Yeltsin, addressing the personnel of the operative division of Russia's Interior Ministry troops (the former Dzerzhinskiy Division). He took part in celebrating the 70th anniversary of the division.

Those who attended the festivities also included the Federation Council Speaker, Vladimir Shumeyko; the Interior Minister, Viktor Yerin; the Foreign Minister, Andrey Kozyrev; and the Director of the Federal Counter-Intelligence Service, Sergey Stepashin.

Boris Yeltsin drew attention to the rampage of crime in the country, which, according to him, began to threaten the state and individual citizens. He pointed to the need to strengthen law and order.

Deputy Atomic Energy Minister on State of Industry

LD1906131994 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 19 Jun 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Summary] According to V. Konovalov, Russian deputy atomic energy minister, France now occupies a special place in the struggle for world atomic markets and nuclear fuel quotas. It has been striving to supply even atomic power stations to the Czech Republic and Slovakia. For this reason, the agreement of the European Union to our atomic exports is important.

Konovalov said prices for low-grade material are falling sharply. This is connected with a surplus and free capacities at most enterprises.

Since the collapse of the USSR, the fuel and nuclear complex has been concentrated in Russia. We are now producing everything including atomic fuel, highly sophisticated equipment for atomic power stations, and

the cheapest energy. We are not building new stations but we are completing the construction of a number of uranium units and making some things for China and East European countries. According to the deputy minister, we are not purchasing anything abroad. However, four conversion production lines have been delivered and they have made it possible to convert the parts of the Krasnoyarsk chemical combine which once carried out military atomic orders into one of Europe's largest production facilities for audio and video cassettes. The Germans are taking uranium rods for their nuclear power stations in payment. Because of a failure to pay, we are unable to supply our fellow-countrymen, and this threatens our own nuclear power stations with closure.

Federal Assembly

Duma Reacts to Yeltsin Crime Edict

MK1806140094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[Ivan Rodin report in the "Parliament" column: "The Duma Had No Time To Protect the Constitution. Everybody Reacts Differently to the Presidential Edict"]

[Text] The criminal world does not seem to pay any attention to the presidential edict on combating it. Since the edict was promulgated, shooting on Moscow streets and explosions in cars and banks have continued very much as usual. Incidentally, especially suspicious are those explosions which, from the point of view of terrorists, end with practically no result. It is not ruled out that what really matters is not the indifference of criminal clans to the paper issued by the guarantor of the Constitution, but that this seeming indifference allows the authorities, primarily in Moscow, to start translating the edicts' provisions into life.

According to some reports, the unabating activity by criminal groups can be used as a reason for the Internal Affairs Ministry to ask the army for assistance, backing this request by a corresponding presidential order. As became known, the metropolitan authorities, who have already increased the number of police equipped with automatic weapons on city streets, are planning to enlist army units that proved themselves back in October. True, assistance from the army is not an easy thing so far, and this must be why rumors have been spreading recently that troops will be seen in the city only after the hand of the criminal world has been raised not against a businessman but a politician, not necessarily a prominent, high-profile one, but sufficiently known, primarily to the president.

Unlike organized crime, the State Duma noticed the edict. Yesterday the legislation and security committees moved a draft resolution titled "On Protecting the Citizens' Constitutional Rights and Freedoms in Enforcing Crime Control Measures". The document notes that Edict 12/26 is in direct contradiction to Articles 4, 10, 17, 19, 22, 34, 50, and 55 of the Constitution as well as a whole number of articles of the Criminal Law Code now in force. The administration of justice system is thereby disrupted, the resolution stresses, proposing to reaffirm the fact that the Constitution and federal laws are supreme while human rights and freedoms may not be limited by any subordinate enactments. Therefore, the Supreme Court, in considering corresponding cases, must be guided by the Constitution and laws, the Duma believes. The resolution tasks its committees with speeding up the drafting and presentation of legislative enactments on crime control and the law on the Constitutional Court. The Duma recommends to the president to suspend his edict and bring it into line with the current laws.

Having bogged down in amendments to the corruption law, however, the deputies failed to discuss and adopt the resolution and therefore defend the Constitution as they had planned.

Rybkin Voices Support

LD2006103494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0918 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Text] State Duma Speaker Ivan Rybkin welcomes Boris Yeltsin's decree on urgent measures to protect the population from banditry and other organized crimes as a vitally important act. He told journalists on Saturday evening that many countries had resorted to similar or even tougher measures. As an example, he referred to the program proposed by Roosevelt, which allowed the U.S. to pull itself out of the Depression and fight crime.

He noted, however, that if Yeltsin had submitted a draft law on amending and enlarging Russia's Criminal Code a day before the decree was passed, there would not have been any friction between the president and the State Duma.

He said that although a decree implies immediate implementation, the Criminal Code might also be amended very quickly.

Party Leaders Comment

LD1706184194 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Jun 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast; passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent M. Lillevyali] The State Duma is in its own way a microcosm of our society and we went there today to put a question to some of the elected representatives: How do you feel about the president's edict on new means for fighting crime?

[Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of Communist Party of Russia] "I take a dual position here. On the one hand, I would support any measures aimed at stopping gangsterism. But on the other hand, they must be within the law."

[Yekaterina Lakhova, leader of Women of Russia faction] "The president's edict cannot exceed the Constitution and cannot exceed federal law. All those who drafted the edict, and I understand that it was the president who drafted the edict, the people who drafted the edict, drafted a completely unconstitutional edict. I am very concerned by some of the individual formulations—the legislative committee discussed them yesterday—that tally directly with 1937 formulations."

[Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, leader of Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] "They should have added our program. An emergency should be introduced in certain regions of the country. In certain cases, we should resort to the court martial system and throw the Armed Forces into the fight against crime. The militia cannot cope. It needs to be given the right to hold additional weapons. The right of the citizen to bear arms should be defended. That is the only way. It would be temporary. The country's leadership introduced such an edict in 1947. It was very effective."

[Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, leader of Yabloko faction] "Introducing the atmosphere of a free-for-all and giving some people the chance to break all sorts of laws in order to tackle other criminals will not in any way solve things."

[Lillevyali] We would like to finish with the point of view of a professional lawyer—the chairman of the State Duma Security Committee, Viktor Ilyukhin.

[Ilyukhin] "It is first unconstitutional and contradicts the Constitution. Second, it torpedoes the complete judicial system now in existence. As a lawyer, I have every reason to question the ability of judicial bodies, which have always been guided only by the Constitution and only by the law, to implement it. What will the reaction of the court be when a sentence is passed on the basis of the edict and not the law?"

State Duma Chairman Rybkin Interviewed

PM2006094194 Moscow TRUD in Russian 17 Jun 94 Night Edition pp 1-2

[Interview with Ivan Rybkin, chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly State Duma, by Vil Dorofeyev (POSTFACTUM—specially for TRUD): "The 'Point Of No Return' Has Been Reached"]

[Text] [Dorofeyev] It is said, Ivan Petrovich, that when you were in the old lower chamber building you ordered portraits of four chairmen of the Russian Empire State Duma to be hung in your office. What was it, a tribute to those who founded Russian parliamentarism at the beginning of the century? Or a reminder to yourself that the country now has the chance to storm the heights of parliamentary democracy "at the fifth attempt"?...

[Rybkin] There is much argument today about parliamentarism—what form it should take. Yet the foundations of parliamentarism existed in Russia much earlier than in many Western countries. There was Novgorod the Great, with its veche [general meeting of the townspeople]. There was the Assembly of the Land, where representatives of all estates of trouble-torn Rus elected the 16-year-old Mikhail Romanov czar. (Why the original organs of representative authority in Russia were subsequently transformed is another matter.) Finally, at the beginning of our era, a rather unwilling emperor was forced to build the institution of the Duma into the state mechanism.

The empire's first State Duma lasted for two months and 10 days. The second lasted three months and 10 days. Ours—the Russian Federation State Duma—started work 11 January. So we have outlived the two first Russian parliaments. Although you know yourself what a wide spectrum of views is represented in the first State Duma in the history of the Russian Federation: eight factions with variously opposing views. The election of the Duma chairman was a typical example. I was elected to the post by a majority of only one vote. In the days of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet this fact would no doubt have sparked off a long debate. But the majority of deputies in the present State Duma decided not to focus attention on this, but to seek consensus.

[Dorofeyev] I remember as soon as the election results were known political scientists were predicting a prolonged argy-bargy among the factions in the State Duma. But this apparently did not occur....

[Rybkin] Of course, there was a reluctance to repeat the fate of the Khasbulatov Supreme Soviet. But the main reason why the State Duma rapidly established itself lies elsewhere, in my view. In the first place, most of the people elected to it, despite all the flaws in the embryonic multiparty system, are sincere and passionate about the country's future. Second, the professional standard of most of the deputies is high. Many have experience of practical work in senior posts in the regions and in central departments in postcommunist Russia. Finally, a part was played by the recognition by the majority of deputies of an apparently simple truth: The country is tired of confrontation between the authorities, of the constant talk.

Look what an interesting situation has developed. International affairs committees were the most "popular" among deputies in all supreme soviets. But the most authoritative committee in the present State Duma is the Committee on the Budget, Finance, Banking, and Taxes, headed by M. Zadornov, from the "Yabloko" bloc. Well, in all civilized countries it is the budget that is the focus of parliamentarians' attention, the foundation of their activities.

The second example is the Committee on the Economy, headed by Sergey Glazyev. It, in conjunction with government experts, has the job of devising a program to extricate the country from the crisis....

[Dorofeyev] But society is up to here with anticrisis programs, just as it is with advertisements for Snickers.

Academician Abalkin's program, the "500 Days" program, Gaydar's monetarist program. They were all adopted as a "basis" for work, but for political reasons they resembled a very powerful truck with an empty tank. No legislative base was created for any of the programs.

[Rybkin] That is why the State Duma's priority program today is the urgent elaboration of a large package of laws. I would divide them into two groups. The first is based on the Civil and Land Codes. It is essentially with their help that the law will consolidate the radical changes currently taking place in our country with regard to property.

The second group of laws bears directly on the economy. But here the task is more complex. Because, in my view, this group of laws should not merely reinforce the current progress of economic reform, albeit slow—but work to accelerate it. This will take more time and closer collaboration with the presidential and government structures. Not confrontation, as in the recent past, but very close collaboration.

I foresee a question concerning the events of last October in Moscow and my attitude toward them, since I was a member of the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet and was in the "White House" during what were tragic days for Russia. Seven months on, now that emotions have abated, giving way to a ruthless analysis of the situation and of oneself, I believe that what happened in Moscow on 3-4 October was a general defeat for the authorities, both executive and representative. So I take a dim view of those who have not calmed down, who are trying to exploit human tragedies, crisis phenomena in the economy, the inability of the authorities....

I want to stress once again that the president and government are pretty happy at the moment with the State Duma's work on the blocks of laws. And the first part of Petr Stolypin's celebrated utterance, addressed, incidentally, to the deputies of the second State Duma: "You need great upheavals..." I believe is now part of the past, God willing, as far as Russian reality is concerned.

[Dorofeyev] And the second part: "...We need a Great Russia"? How realistic is it in the foreseeable future?

[Rybkin] Stolypin's words about Great Russia came back to me on several occasions during the State Duma delegation's visit to the United States. Particularly after a frank discussion with Vice President A. Gore. He told me: "I am surprised when I hear people in your country say that America is preventing Russia from advancing along the path to a democratic society, to economic reform. On the contrary, we want Russia to become a rich and, most of all, stable country. To be frank, most of your people are better educated than Americans. There is no need to mention the raw material potential. It is just that you need to understand yourselves first and foremost. Your people have talent"....

[Dorofeyev] But what Mr. Gore says is an outsider's view. What about the people living in Russia and trying to overcome the problems of the transitional period. For example, those "nonpayments"?

[Rybkin] In my view, this is one of the most disgraceful phenomena of the economic reform. Recently I put it to Yegor Timurovich Gaydar: If he had gone to the market in Moscow with a sack and filled it with goods from the stalls, without paying, what would people have thought of his behavior? Not paying the farmers for delivering the harvest from July through the December snows is a comparable phenomenon. I agree there should be market arrangements, but all those involved in the market, whoever they are, must be paid in accordance with their labor. This is the foundation of all the reforms. Therefore one of the State Duma's first steps was a decree on ensuring the functioning of the agro-industrial complex in 1994. We will seek to ensure its implementation at all costs, including a separate entry in the budget.

[Dorofeyev] But doesn't this decree smack of outright lobbying, since the chairman himself was a prominent member of the agrarian faction before being elected to this high office? Indeed, your entire life has been connected with the countryside: Volgograd Institute of Agricultural Mechanization, mechanical engineer on a major kolkhoz in the oblast, then postgraduate work at the institute and teaching work....

[Rybkin] I have also reflected on the fact that an institution of authority like the State Duma is headed by an agrarian. Perhaps in what is a crucial period for the country, it should finally address the farmer in a real, statesmanlike way. After all, it is my firm belief that Russia is a self-sufficient country. You say "lobbying." But before the Duma adopted this decree I visited Yaroslavl, Tambov, and Voronezh Oblasts. The land is different in these regions, but the situation in the countryside is similar. Only recently many politicians were pinning great hopes on private farming. Let us give peasants land, they would say, and we will solve the country's most nagging problem—the food problem—at a stroke. Some 280,000 private farms were set up in Russia. Some 10 million hectares of land were distributed. But the return from private farming in terms of the aggregate social product is 1 percent so far. I would not want to blame anyone. There was no systematic, deliberate support for this on the part of the state. Why did it happen? I have repeatedly tried to give an answer to people in the government, citing the experience of the developed countries. There, whatever they were developing, whether it be "socialism with a human face" or "people's capitalism," state support for the agrarian sector was assured. Look at the experience of the 26 most developed countries of Europe. There the cost component of state support for agricultural production is up to 40 percent. In Japan it is up to 80 percent,. Why do the capitalist countries, where they know how to husband resources, do this? Well because they realize there is

nothing worse than strategic food dependence. I profoundly believe this is something we must learn from them, and learn well.

[Dorofeyev] But the state simply does not have the substantial funds to provide specific support for the countryside in order to avoid strategic food dependence in the immediate future, as the "budget furor" in the State Duma demonstrated. The treasury is in debt....

[Rybkin] First, the Duma "budget furor." Essentially the country has been living without a budget for three years. No budget has been presented to parliament, foreign economic activity has not been dealt with at all, and hard currency has not featured. For the first time, on 23 March, the Duma insisted that it be informed of all the budget items for this year. The budget was adopted on first reading on the old legislative basis, on the basis of the old tax normatives. But what concerns me more is the 1995 budget. By law it has to be submitted to the lower chamber eight months before the start of the fiscal year. Since the Russian economy is going through a transitional period, we are insisting that the government submit the draft budget for next year to us in September. This is essential: Through the budget we will get a sense of the government's economic program, if there is one. It is my profound belief that we will not get anywhere without making the economy controllable again.

Now we come to debts and loans. We owe $90 billion. We are owed $160 billion. A number of countries is prepared to repay debts to us, large ones at that. One $1-2 billion, another $3 billion, a third $1.5 billion. They must be grabbed as quickly as possible. And the debts that will not be repaid, sell them on. At 0.6 to 0.8 of the face value. Let people collect them if they can. I can foresee your objections—but what about political aims.... But politics is politics and economics is economics. If it is "inconvenient" for the state to press debtors, then let our private entrepreneurs deal with the problem. In two words—no charity. This applies also to technical credits to CIS countries. It is time they and we started to live within our means. I totally agree here with the Germans: "Good accounting does not spoil friendships."

[Dorofeyev] At the meetings in Volgograd you were repeatedly asked, and in a rather peremptory manner: "What are we building, then?" and "Where are we going?" You are a member of the Russian Federation Communist Party, elected to the State Duma to represent the Agrarian Party, ideologically the closest, some of my colleagues believe, to the Russian Federation Communist Party. At the same time, your career and your position in the former Russian Federation Supreme Soviet, and indeed your present position, indicate certain beliefs that are different from those derived from [Stalin's] "Short Course of the All-Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks)."

[Rybkin] Well, you were probably in the CPSU, like many current radical democrats, but you did not live in accordance with the "Short Course." All of us who are nearly 50 or more are children of the same era. A contradictory era, stained with blood, it is true, unfortunately. But I would not renounce what I have lived through as easily as many tried to do in the romantic fervor of perestroyka. Incidentally, neither would I blame Mikhail Gorbachev alone for all our ills. He did a great deal for Russia. He essentially gave impetus to the reforms. And I do not intend to renounce the military endeavors of my father and the old men of my village. The paths they trod, the enthusiasm with which they led their lives—a difficult life, without rights, but an honest life—are part of my life as well.

I regard the decade from 1975 through 1985 as a lost decade for the country. But that is the past. And we must think about the future. What kind of national consciousness will eventually emerge from the remnants of the current morbid, wounded imperial arrogance? No state can exist without this consciousness. It is arguable what is harder: To reform the economy or to form a national consciousness.

As for the answer to the question: "What are we building?"—in this case I would prefer the Swedish model of socialism. But the "infantile disorder of leftism" will continue to be part and parcel of our mass consciousness for a very long time to come, no matter what political movement a Russian citizen relates to.

Airmen have a very precise term: "the point of no return." When an aircraft has already expended a large part of its fuel it cannot return to the airfield where it took off, so all it can do is continue on its way. In my view, Russia has now passed the "point of no return" with regard to its 70-year totalitarian past. At a cost and with losses, but it is now past. There is only one way to go now—into a civilized future worthy of its people.

Comments on Privatization

LD1806184394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1828 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Berlin June 18 TASS—"There should be one and not 101 variants of privatization of former state enterprises," believes Duma Speaker Ivan Rybkin currently here as part of his official visit to Germany.

The Duma delegation has visited the Berlin Kvo cable plant that belongs to British investors and supplies half of its products to Russia. The guests were especially interested in the plant's transition to the market. The plant heads said that the main thing is to adopt marketing as a new production philosophy.

Rybkin told ITAR-TASS that the visit to the plant and a meeting with Berlin Burgomaster Eberhard Diepgen informed the deputies about privatization aspects. The deputies will take this information into account.

"Russia has some 1,500 plants which may become bankrupt. We need a comprehensive approach to this problem and I agree with the stand of Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov and experienced businessmen," said Rybkin.

The Duma speaker laid a wreath to the memorial on Unter Der Linden and the monument to Soviet soldiers in the Berlin borough of Tiergarten.

Considers Social Unrest 'Unlikely'

AU1706193594 Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 13 Jun 94 p 7

[Manfred Quiring report from Moscow: "No Suitable Successor for Yeltsin"]

[Excerpts] In the opinion of Ivan Rybkin, president of the Russian State Duma, social explosions in Russia are very unlikely, despite predictions to the contrary. Before yesterday's anniversary of Russia's sovereignty declaration of 12 June 1991, the Moscow politician said yesterday in an interview with BERLINER ZEITUNG that he currently does not see an alternative to President Yeltsin. [passage omitted]

He affirmed that in the Russian Duma there is a far-reaching consensus on the development of all forms of ownership—both state and private ones. "All parliamentary groups, also the communists, advocated this." There are only differences on the share of the state property in the economy—at present, it is still two-thirds.

Duma President Rybkin regularly meets with President Yeltsin. He had just visited him in the Kremlin, in order to discuss important domestic and foreign policy questions, he reported rather casually. "My relations with President Yeltsin—on a factual level—are the very best, they are constructive." The relations between the parliament and the president—marked by confrontation in the time of the old Supreme Soviet—have also changed. Rybkin is convinced that a vast majority in the parliament and the state structures proceeds on the assumption that President Yeltsin will exercise his full powers until June 1996, which is, according to the Constitution, the scheduled date of new elections.

Talks on candidates at a time when the present president will be in office for another two years are simply not correct. Moreover, he does not see a suitable candidate anywhere. "I know those who want to become president very well and I can tell you: With the limited experience that they have, the presidential responsibility will simply collapse on the day after the election and nothing will be left." In order to anticipate the consequences of decisions made in Moscow for the most distant parts of the country, great experiences of life and leadership are required. All the differences that exist in Russia have to be unified, he said.

He admitted that the previous economic policy has resulted in an extreme differentiation of the living conditions in Russia. The rich earn 45 times more than the poor. However, the Duma president claimed that, during his numerous trips through the country, he ascertained that "the reserves of endurance are sufficiently large." The people keep above water with second and third jobs, he said.

Meanwhile, the majority in the country has realized that "the time of speedy solutions" is over. He is convinced that "the people have understood that daily work is in demand now." The president's latest edicts and the Duma's work is now aimed at a revival of production, on the one hand, and at letting ineffective enterprises go bankrupt, on the other, he said.

Deputies Protest Suspension of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA

Paper Seeks Subsidies From Duma

MK1806143594 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 21

[Maria Bogdanova report: "The Paper Wants To Criticize the Authorities at the Expense of Subsidies"]

[Text] The Communist Party faction in the State Duma yesterday tried to wreck the work of the lower chamber by declining to vote on the agenda. The cause for this political demarche was the refusal by the Pressa publishers to print SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, whose chief editor Valeriy Chikin is himself a deputy. As KOMMERSANT-DAILY found out, yesterday's issue of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA did not see the light for economic, not political, reasons. Pressa Deputy Director Mikhail Trushin said that SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA had loaned newsprint from the publishing house and now owes it for 345 tonnes. Furthermore, the paper is not paying for printing services: Since the beginning of the year its debt has approximated 84 million rubles. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA does not disclaim its debts and therefore, according to editor Vladimir Polyakov, is trying to obtain subsidies through the State Duma in order to continue the paper's publication.

Suspension Seen as 'Political Act'

PM1706202594 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[Own information report: "SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Prevents Deputies Working"]

[Text] Yet again the Pressa publishing house has been forced to suspend publication of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA because of large debts (there was a similar precedent in the spring).

But some deputies have regarded this event as a political act. Gennadiy Seleznev, deputy chairman of the State Duma Committee for Information Policy and member

of the Communist faction, described this as "an extremely gross violation of readers' rights," after which some deputies refused to register for a session of the Duma.

Communists' Faction Boycotts Duma

PM2006104594 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 2

[Report by Sergey Chugayev: "Communists' Faction Announces Strike"]

[Text] The practice of boycotting State Duma sessions seems to be becoming traditional for legislators. Following the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia [LDPR] and the "12 December" group, at the 17 June plenary session the Communists' faction resorted to this form of protest.

The faction's spokesman, G. Selezneyev, said at the start of the session that the reason for the action was the "Pressa" publishing house's decision to halt the publication of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 16 June because of nonpayments. In the deputy's opinion, the newspaper's debts arose with its temporary closure after the events last October.

The representatives of the Communists' faction demanded that members of the government be called to the session to give the relevant explanations. As a result it was decided to instruct Duma Deputy Speaker G. Chilingarov to investigate the matter.

The boycott by the Communists' faction and also the generally small number of deputies present at the session led to the point where it proved very difficult to make any decisions.

In particular the Duma refused to include on the agenda the question of acting General Prosecutor A. Ilyushenko's appeal on the deprivation of V. Zhirinovskiy's rights as a deputy. In the deputies' opinion, the acting prosecutor, in accordance with the Constitution, does not have the right to send such documents to the Duma. Only the general prosecutor has this right. The day before the Duma council adopted the decision to send a representation to the mandate commission for study. But some deputies, representing mainly the "Russian path" group, saw in this an element of compromise and attacked the Duma council, demanding a vote of no confidence.

The proposal from Deputy Loginov to examine the question of protecting MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI correspondent Zhilin who, the deputy says, has been threatened with reprisal since the publication of his article "Generals' Business" on abuses in the Western Group of Forces did not get through either. On the other hand, the deputies decided to examine once again how their decisions on the creation of a parliamentary television and radio company are being fulfilled.

The rejected motions also included the idea, put forward by LDPR faction speaker V. Marychev, of sending an urgent telegram to summon I. Rybkin, who is on an official visit in Germany, to the session. Yet in the absence of the speaker on 17 June the Duma set a kind of record. Debates around the agenda, which did not lead to any serious changes to it, lasted exactly one hour 40 minutes.

Duma Fails To Adopt Law on Corruption

LD1706134794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1317 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Taranov]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—A total of 145 amendments to the law against corruption have been discussed today by the State Duma deputies.

The second reading of the law has brought no results, as the deputies failed to agree on categories of responsibility of officials. In the opinion of Deputy Artem Tarasov, "One cannot compare the responsibility of the Central Bank head and the minister of education". He also thinks that the prime minister should not resign without giving an account of his work. Tarasov gained no support of deputies.

The deputies want to prohibit high-ranking officials to deliver lectures for payment. They also want state secret information submitted to the tax inspection to remain undisclosed. Some suggested to demand that all officials produce their income declarations.

After a break the deputies will continue to discuss the draft law against corruption.

Anticorruption Debate Reported

MK1806132094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 2

[Aleksey Kirpichnikov report under the "Lawmaking" rubric: "Combat Against Corruption To Continue 22 June. Law Has Not Been Passed"]

[Text] The State Duma's second reading of the draft law on combating corruption opened with a report by Security Committee Chairman Viktor Ilyukhin. He reported that the committee examined 145 amendments and that the final text of the document had been toned down.

The approach to bribe-takers has been made differentiated: An official holding an especially senior position shall be liable for any bribe, an average-ranking official shall be liable beginning with a major bribe, while a non-official person (director of a commercial store) shall be liable for a considerable bribe. One may suppose that a rank-and-file non-official (a cleaning woman, for example) shall be liable only for receiving a bribe on an especially big scale.

Earlier, the deputies could not receive money for creative or teaching work; now they can. Because the country's system of payment is poorly developed, the ban on paying for big transactions through the bank or by credit cards has been lifted. Finally, only officials shall be obliged to declare their incomes.

In additions to those amendments that the Security Committee has approved, it has begun discussing those to which it objected. Deputy Pokhmelkin of the "Russia's Choice," for example, proposed several amendments aimed at excluding from among those designated as "officials" those unrelated to public service, that is to say, at excluding one of the main goals of the draft law (government control over private businesses). Deputy Tarasov suggested that categories of liability should be strictly defined so that the head of a commercial organization would be liable under the proposed law only to the extent of the powers delegated to him by the authorities. Even Deputy Baburin agreed with the opinion of his fellow deputies, noting that one cannot infinitely expand the notion of corruption.

To the joy of Mr. Ilyukhin, not a single amendment proposed from the various flanks of the political spectrum was approved. The discussion itself was extremely incomprehensive, disorderly, and wild because of both the deputies' extreme, disparate postures, and because Valentin Kovalev, a less experienced deputy speaker, was sitting in for Speaker Ivan Rybkin. As a result, Mr. Baburin's call—"the best answer by the Duma to the Edict on Combating Banditry is a law on combating corruption"—so far remains unheeded by his fellow deputies, and the discussion will continue on 22 June.

Duma Attack on President's Legality Fails

LD1706125794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1143 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—An attack on Russian President Boris Yeltsin has not been supported by the majority of deputies in the State Duma. Independent Deputy Nadezhda Verveyko of the Krasnodar territory suggested at a plenary meeting of the Duma on Friday that an item on the Russian president's oath be put on the agenda of the session. She asserted that for several months now the Russian president has been working without being sworn in. A minority of deputies of the State Duma voted for her proposal.

Deputy from Russia's Choice group Anatoliy Yushchenko who spoke in the debate pointed out that Nadezhda Verveyko, a trained jurist, should know that under articles of the new Russian Constitution for the transitional period the president need not be sworn in a second time. Nevertheless Verveyko has insisted on the voting.

It is surprising that despite the clarity of the matter she was still supported by 178 votes.

Credentials Commission To Decide on Zhirinovskiy Case

LD1706114894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1107 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS parliamentary correspondent Ivan Novikov]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—The Council of the Russian parliament lower house relegated a representation by Russian Prosecutor-General Vladimir Ilyushenko on divesting Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, leader of the Russian Liberal Democratic Party, of a legislator's immunity to the house's credentials commission for examination, Valentin Kovalev who chaired the chamber's plenary meeting on Friday, said here.

It will be remembered that the acting prosecutor-general claims in his representation that Zhirinovskiy's book "The Last Leap to the South" is liable to criminal prosecution.

The report by Kovalev provoked a lively response from legislators. For instance, Deputy Andrey Dorovskiy from the LDPR group insisted that lawmakers should vote to return the representation by Ilyushenko who, in the deputy's opinion, had no powers to sign such a document, since he "was not approved as prosecutor-general".

Another proposal—to put the item on the representation on the session's agenda—did not pass either: The motion was short of 20 votes.

Zhirinovskiy Attacks Duma's Decision on Charges

LD1706193594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1608 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Leader of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR) Vladimir Zhirinovskiy sharply criticized the decision of the State Duma to transfer to the mandate commission the appeal of acting Prosecutor General Aleksey Ilyushenko asking for the consent of the Duma for bringing Zhirinovskiy to justice on warmongering and inciting ethnic hatred charges.

Zhirinovskiy stated that Ilyushenko himself was "nobody and is sitting in his office only because the president wants it."

Ilyushenko motivated his appeal by the results of the preliminary investigations due to the publication of Zhirinovskiy's book "The Last Push for the South." Ilyushenko referred to provisions in the Criminal Code against warmongering and inciting ethnic hatred.

Duma's Zatulin on Elections in Belarus, Ukraine

MK1806132694 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 2

[Aleksey Kirpichnikov report under the "CIS" rubric: "Russian Mass Media Favor Wrong Men. Konstantin Zatulin Becomes Still Dearer to Sergey Shakhray"]

[Text] A press conference by Konstantin Zatulin, Duma CIS Affairs Committee chairman, was devoted to presidential elections in Ukraine and Belorussia [Belarus]. The last week before them, the Duma man thought, will be decisive. In both sovereign republics there are two main candidates for the lofty position: Mr. Kravchuk and Mr. Kuchma in Ukraine, and Mr. Kebich and Mr. Lukashenko in Belorussia. Mr. Zatulin pointed out the high probability that a second round of voting in both countries may be required to determine the winners, whereas just recently no one doubted the victory of Mr. Kuchma and Mr. Kebich.

From then on, however, the committee head remarked, it is the Russian mass media that played a negative role. For example, the media resolutely sided with Leonid Kravchuk although, Mr. Zatulin thought, "Ukraine's policy under this president has been marked by craftiness and a lack of sincerity, and by the desire to oppose Russia in things big and small, from the United Nations, to NATO, to the CIS. Leonid Kuchma's program calling for closer and friendlier links between an independent Ukraine and Russia is liked much more by the Duma man. The latest "pro-Kravchuk" publications in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA and MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, and especially television's Channel One's taking a program about Mr. Kuchma off the air, appear more than strange to him.

Also obvious is Mr. Zatulin's Belorussian affection—Vyacheslaw Kebich. Albeit he cannot understand a few things there: Why should the Duma, on a cue from the Agrarian faction, give the floor to the chief opponent of today's Belorussian premier, that "local version of Gdlyan." The CIS Committee head likened Aleksandr Lukashenko's report with the report of his fellow committee chairman, Mr. Ilyukhin, head of the Security Committee, during the reading of the Law on Combating Corruption, referring to both as "a method of squaring accounts with entrepreneurship." Mr. Lukashenko's victory would mean compromising the idea of mending fences between Belorussia and Russia, concluded Mr. Zatulin. He also pointed to the danger of a polarization of the heretofore calm Belorussian society once supporters of recent speaker Stanislaw Shushkevich and of People's Front leader Zenon Poznyak unite on one flank.

In winding up, Konstantin Zatulin explained his quitting as executive secretary of the Party of Russian Unity and Accord faction in the State Duma by his being too busy in the CIS Committee, in the party, etc. He specially stressed the absence of differences with Sergey Shakhray, and even pointed out the now established harmony because resignations are something the Party of Russian Unity and Accord has come to live with.

Grachev Not To Address Duma 'Due to Illness'

LD1706132694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1319 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—Russian Defence Minister General Pavel Grachev was not able to appear before the State Duma on Friday due to illness, the lower house of the parliament was informed during its "government hour".

First deputy chief-of-staff Colonel-General Vitaliy Zhurbenko will give the Duma a report on the sending of Russian peacekeeping troops to Abkhazia. Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has already begun his speech, which is devoted to the situation in North Korea, the Crimea, and the Russian peacekeeping mission in the Trans-Caucasus.

Those for, Against Defense Budget Cuts Listed

PM1706122594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jun 94 p 3

[Commentary by Parliamentary Observer Vladimir Yermolin under the general heading "When Adopting the Federal Budget the State Duma Accepted Reduced Defense Spending" accompanied by list of deputies who voted for, against, or abstained and those who did not register a vote]

[Text]

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Parliamentary Observer Commentary

It should be borne in mind that by voting for the adoption of the government version of the federal budget, the deputies were thereby accepting the defense budget which, when the proposals of Mikhail Zadornov and his committee [the Committee for the Budget, Taxes, Banks, and Finances] were taken into account, amounted in total to 40.6 trillion rubles [R]. This figure, according to the most modest estimates of specialists from the Defense Ministry (and indeed the ministries of finance and the economy, too), will not meet even the minimum level required. That will require around 15 trillion more.

Thus, in saying "yes" to such a budget it may be presumed that the deputies were leaving the Army to sort out its own problems, saying to it: "you'll manage somehow." It is curious that even those deputies who just the day before considered it almost a crime to agree to military spending of less than R55 trillion somehow suddenly decided to make do with scarcely more than R40 trillion. Look at the results of the voting and remember the deputies' public statements... The figures speak for themselves—only 40 parliamentarians felt it

necessary to say "no" to this budget. Of course, not all of them are concerned for the fate of the Armed Forces—the present budget will also reduce science, culture, and health care to starvation rations. But those who said "yes" to the government draft law did agree to a defense budget of R40.6 trillion. And that means that they agreed to a level of officers' pay which is a pittance by present-day standards, to a chronic shortage of housing in the Army, to ships which will have to perform combat duty even though they can barely stay afloat because there is no money to pay for repairs, to aircraft which have been standing idle for months for want of fuel, to test ranges overgrown with weeds, to a defense industry which is paralyzed... There are many things that those deputies agreed to when they voted so hastily for the government version of the budget.

An analysis of the results of the vote clearly show that the following factions did not consider it necessary to fight for a decent defense budget: the Communists, the Agrarians, the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia, Women of Russia, the majority of deputies from New Regional Policy, the Party of Russian Unity and Accord, and the Democratic Party of Russia. A section of Russia's Choice preferred to abstain while another section did not vote at all. Only the Yabloko (Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin) faction actively opposed the government's draft budget. And even that faction objected not so much to the reduced military spending as to the general approach to budget policy itself.

Strange as it may seem, the members of the State Duma's Defense Committee also accepted the loss of R15 trillion. None of them voted "against." To be fair it should be noted that until recently the committee sought to influence the government's position and acted as an ally of the Defense Ministry. Thus it is all the more incomprehensible why members of the committee surrendered their right to vote without a battle, as it were. How else is one to interpret the failure to take part in the voting? Eight committee members actually said "yes" to the budget. Although at the moment that the vote took place, Aleksandr Piskunov, for example, was actually standing at the microphone making one last desperate attempt to persuade his colleagues not to rush into the adoption of the budget. Incidentally, Sergey Glazyev, who recently told KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers (see the 7 June issue) how it was possible to get 55 trillion for the Army without increasing the budget deficit at the same time, decided for some reason against making such an attempt.

To cut a long story short, there is one conclusion which instantly springs to mind: The rumors about a military-industrial lobby in the State Duma proved to be exaggerated, to put it mildly. There is no reasonably cohesive force, faction, or party in the State Duma today which would seriously defend the military's interests. Barely more than a dozen [yedva li bolshe desytaka] members of the entire corps of deputies sincerely care for the Army and the country's defense.

I do not want to resort to conjecture or cast a slur on people whose absence from the session or failure to vote may well have been due to factors which are even quite valid. The results of the voting are in front of us. One vote out of many. No more than that. True, these results may affect the lives of hundreds of thousands of people and indeed the fate of the Russian Army itself. I hope that the deputies were aware of this when they decided which button to press or whether to press a button at all. The results of the voting which took place at 1647 hours on 8 June may prove historic. And when in the future we look at the names of the people's elected representatives, we will have a special feeling when we think of the first State Duma in post-Soviet Russia and its attitude to the defense capability of the Armed Forces, the problems of the Army and Navy, and its concern for the "man with the gun."

The Roll-Call Vote Shows Who is Who

The discussion of the 1994 federal budget at the second reading took place behind closed doors, as is well known. And the decision was also made "in-house"—in the absence of the press and television. However, among the people there was, for quite understandable reasons, considerable interest in this vote. Within the Armed Forces, too, the logical question was asked: Which of the people's elected representatives said "yes" to such an patently meager defense budget?

In response to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers' requests, we now publish the results of the roll-call vote on the 1994 federal budget (second reading).

Those Who Voted in Favor

M.M. Abdulbasirov, S.N. Abeltsev, V.A. Agafonov, Ye.A. Agafonov, Ye.D. Aypin, A.A. Akhbayev, G.A. Alekseyev, V.N. Altukhov, I.S. Anichkin, A.V. Aparina, K.D. Arakchaa, A.N. Arinin, F.Sh. Arslanova, R.B. Asayev, N.P. Astafyev, T.A. Astrakhankina, G.G. Bagautdinov, V.Ye. Balalayev, V.I. Baryshev, O.O. Begov, N.M. Bezborodov, V.I. Berestovoy, I.M. Bespalov, N.G. Binlyukov, A.M. Biryukov, Ye.M. Bogdanova, V.A. Bokov, V.I. Bolshakov, V.M. Borzyuk, V.I. Borodin, S.S. Boskholov, I.M. Bratishchev, Yu.A. Brusnitsyn, T.I. Bulgakova, G.E. Burbulis, P.T. Burdukov, Ye.V. Buchenkov, Ye.V. Bushmin, S.N. Bystrov, M.Yu. Vakulenko, A.V. Vasilishin, A.G. Vasilyev, V.F. Vershinin, V.V. Vinogradov, Yu.P. Vlasov, A.P. Vlasova, V.N. Volkov, A.Ye. Vorontsov, A.I. Voropayev, I.Ye. Vybornova, M.I. Gaydash, A.M. Galiyev, V.I. Golovlev, N.N. Goncharov, M.L. Goryachev, A.N. Greshnevikov, V.S. Grigoriali, T.M. Gudima, V.V. Gukov, V.K. Gusev, A.V. Guskov, A.S. Davydov, B.I. Danchenko, A.S. Dzasokhov, M.K. Dobrovolskaya, A.M. Dorovskikh, G.T. Dyudyayev, G.V. Yegorov, S.A. Yenkov, P.V. Yefremov, S.M. Zhebrovskiy, A.A. Zhilina, Ye.P. Zhirkov, E.G. Zhuk, V.Ye. Zhuravlev, V.V. Zhurko, L.N. Zavadskaya, A.N. Zaytsev, B.I. Zamay, S.K. Zarichanksiy, K.F. Zatulin, A.A. Zakharov, A.A. Zvyagin, S.A. Zenkin, V.I. Zorkaltsev, I.B. Zubkevich, A.A. Zuyev, K.E. Zuyev, G.A. Zyuganov, N.V.

Ivanov, Yu.P. Ivanov, A.V Ionov, V.B. Isakov, A.V. Kapustin, G.Yu. Karelin, V.P. Kartashov, V.S. Katrenko, V.P. Kvasov, P.Ya. Kiriy, V.A. Kirpichnikov, M.M. Kiselev, G.I. Klimantova, I.Ye. Klochkov, V.V. Kobelev, V.A. Kovalev, V.N. Kovalev, V.N. Kozhemyakin, A.I. Kozyrev, V.A. Kolmakov, N.Ya. Kondakov, S.A. Korobov, V.M. Kostyutkin, V.I. Kosykh, V.A. Kotlyar, N.S. Kotov, A.T. Kochegura, V.I. Kravtsov, Ye.S. Krasnitskiy, A.I. Krasnykh, Yu.P. Kuznetsov, G.V. Kulik, A.L. Kushnar, M.I. Lapshin, Ye.F. Lakhova, Yu.Yu. Leonov, A.I. Leushkin, Ye.Yu. Loginov, Zh.M. Lozinskaya, G.G. Lukava, L.S. Maksakova, N.D. Malakhatkina, S.A. Markidonov, V.S. Martemyanov, V.G. Martynova, V.A. Marychev, P.I. Matyashov, V.L. Mashinskiy, G.A. Medentsov, V.V. Mikulin, O.O. Mironov, R.N. Mirsayev, A.V. Mitrofanov, E.V. Mitrofanova, A.D. Mikhaylov, A.N. Mikhaylov, Ye.E. Mikhaylov, B.V. Moiseyev, V.A. Moroz, I.Sh. Muksinov, A.G. Nazarchuk, V.I. Naumov, A.G. Nevzorov, V.I. Nesterenko, V.I. Nikitin, V.A. Nikonov, V.I. Novikov, I.Ye. Novitskaya, L.V. Oleynik, S.P. Openyshev, S.Yu. Orlova, A.V. Ochirova, K.N. Panferov, N.V. Parinov, G.V. Parshentseva, F.S. Pashennykh, L.N. Petrovskiy, T.V. Pletneva, V.N. Plotnikov, V.B. Podmasko, A.A. Ponomarev, S.A. Ponomarev, A.G. Popov, A.A. Popov, [alphabetical order as published] M.I. Popov, S.A. Popov, Ye.M. Popova,

A.F. Potapenko, A.P. Pochinok, A.V. Pronin, M.A. Putilov, V.V. Pchelkin, V.P. Repkin, S.N. Reshulskiy, Yu.M. Ruda, I.P. Rybkin, Z.I. Sayetgaliyev, A.V. Selivanov, V.V. Semago, M.V. Seslavinskiy, M.N. Sidorov, R.I. Skripitsyna, D.A. Skum, Yu.V. Sokolov, I.V. Starikov, S.S. Sulakshin, N.A. Sukhoy, V.A. Sychev, S.V. Sychev, V.L. Talanov, Yu.M. Ten, T.P. Tokareva, N.I. Travkin, A.M. Traspov, A.V. Turbanov, A.A. Turusin, V.I. Ustinov, V.P. Utkin, A.V. Fedulova, A.V. Filatov, V.D. Filimonov, O.A. Finko, V.A. Frolov, N.M. Kharitonov, K.A. Tsiku, Ye.Ye. Chepurnykh, A.A. Chernyshev, V.V. Chikin, G.P. Chubkova, G.I. Churkin, S.A. Churkin, S.A. Shapovalov, A.N. Shokhin, S.N. Shulgin, Yu.N. Yakovlev, A.I. Yaroshenko.

Those Who Voted Against

V.P. Averchev, Ye.A. Ambartsumov, S.N. Baburin, N.A. Bikalova, A.P. Veyer, V.N. Gaboyev, S.A. Glotov, A.G. Golov, A.N. Gordeyev, V.S. Goryachev, I.D. Grachev, Ye.A. Gusarov, B.A. Denisenko, O.G. Dmitriyeva, N.A. Zatsepina, T.V. Zlotnikova, G.S. Kalistratov, A.Ya. Lezdinsh, V.S. Lipitskiy, V.N. Maksimov, V.S. Medvedev, S.S. Mitrokhin, S.V. Mikheyev, T.G. Nesterenko, V.A. Nikitin, N.Ya. Petrakov, V.S. Surenkov, A.M. Tarasov, V.A. Tikhonov, Ye.L. Tishkovskaya, B.N. Tretyak, A.Kh. Trushnikov, T.E. Chepasova, V.S. Shevelukha, S.I. Shkuro, V.N. Shostakovskiy, V.B. Shuba, I.A. Yakovenko, G.P. Yakunin, T.V. Yarygina.

Those who abstained

A.P. Aulov, V.A. Boyko, Ye.T. Gaydar, A.L. Golovkov, V.V. Gritsan, V.A. Davydkin, M.A. Danilov, A.K. Yegorov, V.V. Zelenkin, B.A. Zolotukhin, K.B. Ignatyev, V.P. Lednev, A.I. Lukyanov, V.N. Manannikov, A.V. Minzhurenko, V.P. Mironov, M.A. Mityukov, V.V. Mikhaylov, Yu.A. Nisnevich, E.A. Pamfilova, M.N. Poltoranin, A.N. Sarychev, V.I. Sevastyanov, A.N. Sergeyenkov, A.S. Sidorov, V.I. Tatarchuk, V.V. Tetelmin, T.V. Chertoritskaya, A.N. Chilingarov, I.I. Chukhin, A.Ye. Shabal, V.N. Yuzhakov.

Those who did not register a vote

A.I. Aleksandrov, A.L. Amelina, L.V. Babukh, V.A. Bauer, V.A. Bayunov, V.G. Bessarabov, O.T. Bogomolov, Ye.A. Bolshakov, G.S. Bondarev, V.V. Borshchev, A.P. Braginskiy, Yu.Ye. Buzov, V.Ye. Bulavinov, P.G. Bunich, S.V. Burkov, M.P. Burlakov, V.A. Vasilyev, M.A. Vasilyev, A.D. Vengerovskiy, N.A. Verveyko, V.G. Vishnyakov, Yu.Ye. Voyevoda, A.R. Volkov, N.V. Volkova, D.A. Volkogonov, S.V. Voronov, N.N. Vorontsov, L.D. Gagut, G.M. Gamidov, V.I. Gayulskiy, V.Z. Gvozdarev, N.L. Gen, A.I. Generalov, A.Ye. Gerber, S.Yu. Glazyev, M.K. Glubokovskiy, M.Z. Gnezdilov, S.S. Govorukhin, V.V. Goman, R.G. Gostev, N.G. Gundareva, G.I. Gusarova, Yu.S. Gusman, V.I. Danilov-Danilyan, A.A. Dolgopolov, A.M. Yemelyanov, L.A. Zhadanova, B.B. Zhamsuyev, O.Yu. Zharov, V.V. Zhirinovskiy, A.D. Zhukov, A.Kh. Zaveryukha, G.I. Zadonskiy, M.M. Zadornov, S.V. Zapolskiy, I.I. Zaslavskiy, O.K. Zastrozhnaya, V.M. Zelenin, S.V. Ivanenko, V.P. Ivanov, V.P. Ivanov [as published], V.V. Igrunov, V.I. Ilyukhin, R.F. Ismagilov, Ye.P. Ishchenko, M.M. Kazhlayev, S.V. Kalashnikov, Yu.Kh. Kalmykov, Kh.M. Karmokov, A.M. Kashpirovskiy, V.V. Kiselev, S.A. Kovalev, V.V. Kozhukhova, A.V. Kozyrev, Ye.M. Kokorev, V.U. Korniyenko, Ye.A. Kosterin, N.V. Krivelskaya, K.E. Laykam, M.Ya. Lemeshev, V.A. Lepekhin, T.I. Leta, V.A. Lisichkin, V.N. Lotkov, I.L. Lukashev, V.P. Lukin, V.N. Lysenko, N.N. Lysenko, A.M. Makarov, Ye.B. Malkin, P.A. Medvedev, V.Ya. Medikov, G.G. Melikyan, A.Yu. Melnikov, A.Yu. Mikhaylov, L.P. Mishustina, A.S. Moiseyev, M.M. Molostvov, O.V. Morozov, A.A. Muravyev, I.V. Muravyev, A.N. Murashov, L.V. Nekrasov, A.A. Nuykin, A.A. Osovtsov, O.F. Ochin, E.A. Pashenko, A.A. Piskunov, V.V. Pokhmelkin, A.G. Puzanovskiy, Yu.N. Rodionov, L.P. Rozhkova, Yu.A. Rybakov, V.A. Ryzhkov, V.V. Savitskiy, B.G. Saltykov, Yu.K. Sevenard, G.N. Seleznev, V.I. Selyunin, Yu.Yu. Sidorov, S.G. Skorochkin, A.Ya. Sliva, V.M. Smirnov, M.N. Snezhkov, S.B. Stankevich, N.S. Stolyarov, B.M. Titenko, M.O. Tolboyev, G.A. Tomchin, N.M. Tropin, Ye.V. Tuinov, V.A. Tumanov, I.G. Ustinov, Yu.V. Utkin, B.G. Fedorov, Ye.A. Fedorov, M.Z. Feygin, A.K. Frolov, I.M. Khakamada, B.V. Khulkhalichev, A.I. Tsapin, A.B. Chubays, N.A. Chukanov, S.M. Shakhray, V.L. Sheynis, P.B. Shelishch, O.A. Shenkarev, I.A. Shichanin, S.N. Yushenkov, A.A. Yushchenko, G.A. Yavlinskiy.

Regional Affairs

Moscow Mayor Seeking 'Power and Money'

PM1706153594 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Jun 94 pp 1-2

[Article by Vladimir Kucherenko under the "Power and Money" rubric: "Warrant for Moscow. A Subjective View of the Activities of the Capital's Mayor"]

[Text] Yuriy Luzhkov has been a leitmotif of recent days. He has announced that he will now oppose the course of the present government. For more than six months now he has been a fierce opponent of Chubays' privatization. He is said to be aiming for the post of president of the Russian Federation.

Nothing for Nothing?

Luzhkov's first thesis: It is necessary to sell property at a realistic price and so replenish the budget in order to carry out social and housing programs. He propagandizes this thesis at every opportunity. But how does he fulfill it himself?

First of all, let us note that Chubays has never been able to "spread himself" in the capital. Since the middle of 1991 privatization here has been proceeding in a special way: Yeltsin himself gave Moscow's mayor these powers in two edicts. The mayor of Moscow has become the virtual ruler of the destinies of the land, the buildings, the budgetary money, and the so-called nonbudgetary funds. No organ elected by the residents of "most democratic" Moscow controls him. Neither the Mossovet [Moscow City Soviet], which at first was reduced to the position of an "architectural excess" on the edifice of power in the capital and was then destroyed, nor the City Duma, which sits there meek as a lamb, has managed this.

Thus, few people prevented Mr. Luzhkov from obtaining trillions from the capital's property in both 1992 and 1993. What happened?

In 1992 the Mossovet raised a scandal: City Hall had planned that the city's budget would get just 2.24 billion rubles [R] from privatization! Just approximately $20 million at the then prevailing rate of exchange, despite the fact that the rent for one square meter of office space in the city ranged from $600 to $1,200 a year!

Sergey Pykhtin, former member of the inner soviet, recalls that literally a few days before Luzhkov announced the figure of R2.24 billion, the press carried a report that the proceeds from just four projects sold by City Hall had totaled R6 billion.

There was no scandal over the 1993 budget, since the Mossovet had been destroyed. But there was a debate in the summer of 1993. It turned out that City Hall had planned to secure R9 billion—just approximately $9 million at the rate of exchange at the time—by leasing premises to privatized enterprises. So the mayor's words about trillions of rubles, or billions of dollars, somehow are not confirmed by the figures.

The mayor undoubtedly sells some things for money—all sorts of stores and warehouses. But let us take the fate of the capital's tastiest property morsels—hotels, CPSU property, and plots of land in central districts. Have they brought many billions to ordinary Muscovites? For all these are such attractive things to business, on which business would not grudge forking out huge sums of money. Just put this property up for auction. But things happened differently.

Let us take an example: The Central Stadium at Luzhniki.

On 22 July 1992 Directive No. 1801-RP of the premier of the government of Moscow (Luzhkov is both mayor and premier simultaneously) exempted the stadium from profits tax and ground rent. On 23 July Directive No. 222-RM "On Privatization of the V.I. Lenin Central Stadium" set the charter fund of that project at...R98 million, which at that time was equal to the value of 49 passenger cars or 25-30 apartments. Finally, on 11 September 1992 Document No. 337-RM organized an industrial goods market on the stadium's territory.

Thus, a narrow group of people ("Luzhniki-Invest") obtained a huge piece of territory and finished structures, which they had not erected, in a prestigious district practically free of charge. At the same time the city budget would not get a single kopek, for the mayor had exempted the new venture from taxes and payments!

I could also cite the by now axiomatic example of the way 60 hectares in the region of Gagarin Square were leased for 99 years to the "KNIT-Kaluzhskaya Zastava" Joint Venture for $10 a year. The city administration said about this: The low ground rent will prompt investors to invest money in the construction of a grandiose complex of buildings. But, in selling enterprises very cheaply, Chubays' people say of the same thing: Investors should not give money to the state but invest it in production.

Incidentally, About the "Party's Gold..."

I would like to ask the mayor what happened to the property of the Moscow CPSU City Committee [Gorkom] and Oblast Committee, the CEMA [Council for Mutual Economic Assistance] complex, and the USSR Council of Ministers Administration of Affairs, which Moscow City Hall inherited after August 1991. In which newspapers did it publish the list of these projects and announce a competition for their sale and privatization? Finally, how much money was allocated, at the same time, to social and housing programs?

Moscow CPSU Gorkom had seven buildings right in the center of the city, a facilities department with the "Litvinovo" Health Camp, and a transport section with a garage and 900 employees—really a readymade top-class cab fleet. (The list is taken from Luzhkov's Directive No. 238-RVM of 6 September 1991). The CEMA complex (which became first the residence of City Hall and then that of the State Duma) included the Mir Hotel and restaurant, an underground garage, a motor vehicle base, a printing plant, a kindergarten, and a guest house. In addition to the 29-story skyscraper itself, luxurious party housing also fell into City Hall's hands after that August.

File entry: "...Last week's event was the sale by auction of apartments in a block which belonged to the CPSU Central Committee through the 'Orgkomitet' Joint-Stock Company. It is an interesting fact...that the right to sell these apartments was granted to 'Orgkomitet' without any competition being held. Observers are inclined to put this down to a coincidence of interests between the leaders of the Moscow government and the joint-stock company...."

"On the day of the auction Mitichkin (president of the joint-stock company—V.K.) declared that he still did not know what percentage his firm would receive from the apartment sales.... This attests that 'Orgkomitet's' leadership is able to resolve this problem with the Moscow government calmly and without problems"—KOMMERSANT 2 March 1992.

It is worth recalling that this joint-stock company was founded by the Moscow government (20 percent of the shares), while none other than Luzhkov became its president. At the same time it is not clear from the charter documents whether this was as a representative of a legal person or as a private citizen. It is also noteworthy that by his decision of 19 February 1991 he ordered that a proportion of the city administration's profits from "Orgkomitet" be channeled not into the city's budget but into increasing...the charter fund of "Orgkomitet" itself. But what about social and housing programs for ordinary Muscovites?

All right, the "Central Committee apartments" were put on open sale. But what about the rest of the party's legacy? We can use one example to show what benefit the ordinary Muscovite derived from this "privatization."

The transport section of Moscow CPSU Gorkom became City Hall's motor vehicle fleet. Whereas previously the poor Soviet Union had paid for partyocrats to travel in black Volgas, now the residents of City Hall rode around in the same vehicles. In November 1991 Yuriy Mikhaylovich signed a joint decision with the "ASM-Holding" Joint-Stock Company, under which the latter pledged to supply City Hall's motor vehicle fleet with 150 passenger cars a year, while City Hall promised "ASM..." "to give it all possible assistance in allocating premises and paying for leased buildings...." So much for social and housing programs.

Privatization of the capital's land and real estate is something special. City Hall selected in an unknown way five firms to organize auctions for the sale of plots and buildings. It is a mystery who selected these firms and on what criteria. The competitions which they held were not very well publicized either.

Of course, an ordinary person with labor savings has nothing to do in such auctions—these are businessmen's games. But they were not very pleased about them. At the end of 1992 Borovoy, who was then still at odds with Luzhkov, sorrowfully said: We lodge applications for such auctions, but we never succeed. Buildings are sold to goodness knows who for a few million rubles and a week or two later are resold for a quarter of a billion.

The second thesis advanced by the mayor, who has now gone over to the opposition, is that anarchy reigns in Russia, with the result that the country is being taken apart and sold off on the cheap. If there is no power, not a single law or sensible measure will work.

Luzhkov has been in charge of Moscow since 1990. At first de facto, but then de jure. He has had more than enough time to instill order. But what do we see? Let us open MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI for 5 September 1993 and learn that Luzhkov's government is the founder of 178 joint ventures, to which 61 industrial projects, 450 hectares of extremely expensive city land, and buildings with an area of 220,000 square meters have been transferred. The newspaper provides a detailed report of a scandalous session of the city's government: "You might think that Moscow can count on sizable receipts into its treasury from these firms. But according to the data of the External Relations Department, the city's revenue from the activities of joint ventures is less than the funds invested in them. For some reason just two-thirds were registered at the tax inspectorate in 1992. Only 37 percent of them paid taxes to the city in full. The budget has a constant shortfall in profits from operating city property, including currency profits.... The mayor believes that it is necessary to analyze the work of all ventures.... But nobody has made such a detailed analysis. Moscow has no record of the activities of joint ventures. It is not known today what specifically each firm does, how successfully it does it, what use it makes of city property.... Back in April of last year (1992—V.K.) it (the government—V.K.) entrusted the Moscow Committee for the Management of State Property with creating a data bank of joint ventures. Still nothing has been done (i.e. 18 months later—V.K.). But it will be extremely difficult for the government to reclaim its share from the 'guilty parties.' The mechanism for confiscating city property from joint ventures has not been worked out even theoretically."

The City as "Milch Cow"

We can cite another example. The "Perestroyka" Joint Venture, in which the city had a 40-percent participation through the "Mosinzhstroy" municipal structure. Yuriy Mikhaylovich extolled Stroyev, the head of "Perestroyka," as a real businessman. What next? In the spring of 1993 Stroyev hid from Russian investigators in the United States, the "Mosinzhbeton" Combine was left without the $1.5 million owed it by the joint venture, and "Mosinzhstroy" was seeking its legitimate share of the profits. It turned out that rich foreign firms had been transferring the rent for "Perestroyka's" offices to an account not at a Moscow bank but a Cypriot bank. At the same time the joint venture easily obtained from Luzhkov both land in Moscow and buildings. But Cyprus.... This island is a place of registration for offshore firms and an international tax haven.

Market and Owners Moscow-Style

Yuriy Mikhaylovich has almost autocratic control over the city's budget. The tax inspectorate is also subordinate to him. But, even so, the mayor of Russia's richest city constantly demands money from the federal budget, as though Moscow were some loss-making collective farm!

During the life of the Mossovet the city budget served as a constant subject of scandals. In December 1992 deputies forced City Hall to admit that there was a shortfall of R40 billion in the revenue part. In general, fiery passions were raging then—this is a subject for a separate article. It is sufficient just to say that Luzhkov's financial department was unable even to state definitely how many taxpayers there are in the city or why there is a discrepancy of tens of times between its indicators and the Moscow City Statistical Administration's data. City Hall and the government of Moscow, both headed by Luzhkov, were mortally offended by the Mossovet's suppositions that the "missing" billions serve as magnificent soil for corruption and embezzlement of public funds. They attempted to end relations with the Mossovet altogether.

By the middle of 1993 another scandal had broken over the city's budget, and the Mossovet entrusted its chairman with lodging documents with the Prosecutor's Office. But the bloody crisis arose, and the mayor once again found himself "in the saddle."

Here is another recent example. At the end of that year the Russian Federation Government cut down the budget investment program prepared by the "economic heads" of the Ministry of Economics—Ya. Urinson and S. Vasilyev. It allocated only approximately R30 billion to science, culture, and education. But R200 billion for the construction in Moscow of the memorial on Poklonnaya Hill. If that version had gotten through, Luzhkov could have loudly proclaimed his thrift and patrioticness: I have found the money for a sacred cause. The rich budget morsel wrested from Russian physicians and teachers would have gone to the capital's construction monopoly headed by Luzhkov's vice premier—Vladimir Iosifovich Resin.

"Patriotic Market" and "Real Owners"—the Moscow Version

Our mayor's third thesis: Chubays' privatization brings forth not real owners but barren speculators in land and buildings and foreign rogues who buy up everything on the cheap. This, incidentally, is quite likely.

But how does the mayor himself put his patriotic principles into practice? Let us take another example and trace who in Moscow becomes an owner and how the commissions which determine the very best are made up. So, the Moskva Hotel is on stage.

Last year the competition for the right to manage the hotel was won by Germany's Adwanta in conjunction with "Menatep" and the Moscow Regional Development Fund [MRDF]. It is significant that the firm of "Oyromill," which lost to them, offered terms that were far more advantageous to the city. Thus, "Oyromill" promised to invest here the profits from the Moskva, while Adwanta and company promised to export them. The loser promised to recoup the expenditure in six years, and the winner in 15-18 "winters." [pun on Russian word for year—leto—which literally means "summer"] "Oyromill" planned to involve our specialists in the business and to spend 4 percent of the profits on management, while Adwanta planned to spend twice as much, with only foreigners on the management. The "also-ran" estimated profits at $153 million over 10 years; the competition winner at $76 million. At the same time Adwanta, "Menatep," and the MRDF did not make any redemption payment at all into the city treasury. They became, in fact, virtually the full owners of a chic hotel 100 meters from the Kremlin, but the project itself formally remained municipal property. Moreover, they have made the Moskva into a standard of "anti-Chubaysism."

The secret of the win by Adwanta and company becomes clear if we take a look at the composition of the founders of one of the owners of a very tasty morsel—the MRDF. It is the Moscow Construction Committee headed by V. Resin, Luzhkov's deputy, who also headed the competition commission for the Moskva. Does it turn out that he awarded victory to his own daughter firm?

Incidentally, the MRDF's founders include the present External Relations Department of the city government headed by I. Ordzhonikidze, who, let us note, was deputy chairman of the jury on the Moskva.

Another member of this commission was the head of the Municipal Housing Department, and yet another was Saprykin, Luzhkov's subordinate, whose department is coowner of the Balchug Hotel along with the firm of Kempinski, which is owned by the same Adwanta. Do you require any further comment? Particularly with regard to whether the city received any money for housing and social programs as a result of that competition.

Today it is possible to state that the mayor has turned the capital into a holding under his own control, which has tenaciously monopolized the city's entire wholesale food trade, transport, and construction—in short, the city's most important functions. Is this a market? The mayor maintains that 3 million square meters of housing are constructed in Moscow every year, one-third of which goes to indigent people on the waiting list, with apartments going to those who joined the line in 1987 (3.4 million meters), which is in keeping with the 1955 indicators. This despite the fact that twice as much is paid for an apartment in the city as for one in America. Given such a demand from businessmen, the capital should experience literally a construction boom, and the municipality could give investors land for apartment

blocks, receiving in exchange 20 percent of the apartments for people on the waiting list. A simple calculation attests that in this way it is possible to obtain approximately twice as much free housing.

But construction in Moscow has been monopolized by Vice Premier Resin, who prefers to construct somewhat less and to sell it for somewhat more. Private investors themselves are hardly building at all: City Hall demands too large a percentage of apartments "in tribute." Therefore housing in the city long ago became an unaffordable luxury for nonbusinessmen. Moscow is heading pell-mell for the kingdom of "five families in one room."

Proprietors of Life

The "Orgkomitet" Joint-Stock Company trades in municipal housing constructed at the taxpayers' expense and pockets the profits. The "MIKS" Joint-Stock Company with the participation of the Moscow Construction Committee's main administration constructs luxury cottages for nouveaux riches. Businessmen who conducted the "Moscow Lights" apartment lottery bought apartments not directly from the Municipal Housing Department but through some investment center attached to it. At a price, moreover, four times higher than the auction price at that time (incidentally, the lottery itself failed). Mr. Resin's department also participates in the "City" project—a piece of New York in Presnya.

Contrary to laws and presidential edicts, Vladimir Iosifovich Resin himself went about for almost a year as a private person—founder of the firm of "Stroygarant" and owner of 60 percent of "Mosinzhstroy's" capital. In August 1992 Resin (as vice premier) transferred to this association (and, thus, also to himself personally) property, the mere list of which runs to hundreds of pages. Without any redemption payments, which the mayor so wants to channel into housing and social programs for ordinary city folk. Incidentally, in 1992-1993 the enterprises belonging to "Mosinzhstroy" transferred to "Stroygarant" 1.5 percent, only not of the profits but of the volume of work fulfilled. Since they had carried it out mainly with official money, this constitutes a pump for transferring the people's funds to private pockets. If you consider that "Mosinzhstroy" has a total monopoly on road, asphalt, and pipelaying work, you can understand that the source of pumping is practically inexhaustible.

As the proprietor of "Mosinzhstroy," "Stroygarant" also owns 40 percent of the "Perestroyka" Joint Venture, of which we have already spoken.

Some Results

When it comes right down to it, the system being created by Luzhkov—power and big business in the same pair of hands—is the economic basis of a totalitarian system resembling the regimes of the ancient Asian despots, Haiti's "Papa Doc," or the Mobutu Sese Seko clique in Zaire. The political superstructure is determined by the basis.

It is already possible to see features of this superstructure in Moscow. The more rampant crime becomes, the more self-confident thugs are seen in the city's streets in a dappled uniform with handcuffs, sticks, and even firearms. Luzhkov has gotten control of the Internal Affairs Main Administration and municipal militia forces and is now also forming "people's militia detachments" subordinate to his government.

Last year Luzhkov decided on a simple action: Caucasians out, Special-Purpose Militia Detachment members in almost every store. All of Moscow's lumpen applauded the mayor, giving no thought whatever to the consequences. As though others (even from Solntsevo! [town near Moscow—hangout of mobsters]) would not take the place of those driven out and take advantage of the same anarchy and venality. Buying officials on the pretext of paying for the services of their "pocket" firms.

Politics Is Still a Dirty Business

Nevertheless, Luzhkov is becoming a formidable force in politics. He relies on a narrow circle of bankers, allowing "Most" and several other banks to service the city budget. Dealers in real estate, which brings in huge profits, are backing the mayor, who has done them a great favor. He makes uncontrolled use of the budget and squeezes money out of the federal government—and they give luxury cottages to officers of elite Moscow divisions. There is money for Big Politics and the Big Press.

In the big game for the presidency Yuriy Mikhaylovich is starting to speak in the words of those whom he was lambasting just a few months ago—Rutskoy and Khasbulatov. This ploy is called "intercepting revolution." The mayor's experts and image-makers evidently reckon that the national-state guys are the best bet now. Luzhkov has already also been caught out in fashionable "Russophilia." The claim that Gaydar and Chubays are agents of Russia's enemies is a rhetorical ploy already employed by him. Speaking about the jubilee of a celebrated satirist, he cited himself with pleasure in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA: "There is one Russian Luzhkov, the rest are Zhvanetskiys."

Let us note in this connection that the mayor is pulling the tails of two dangerous animals, which might turn upon him: nationalism and armed mercenaries.

As the venerable liberal Karl Popper warned in "The Open Society and Its Enemies," someone who resorts to the services of armed people runs a great risk. For people with guns will soon realize that money is secondary. The primary force is the one that can be used to secure both power and wealth for yourself.

More on Failed Effort To Sell Stolen Uranium

PM1706142394 Moscow NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Andrey Ishchenko: "Uranium Transported in a Passenger Railcar and Stored in a Cool Place—Details About the Exposed Affair of the Misappropriation of Uranium-235"]

[Text] St. Petersburg-Moscow—It was at the Federal Counterintelligence Service St. Petersburg Directorate that the details of the abortive sale of 3 kg of highly enriched Uranium-235 stolen from a plant near Moscow (see NOVAYA YEZHEDNEVNAYA GAZETA for 9 June) were conveyed to our correspondent.

It is probably a good thing that Lenya Golubkov had the idea of making money on shares from the MMM Joint Stock Company. Otherwise, this extraordinarily henpecked proletarian, in his search for money to buy boots for his wife and other joys of family life, might also have been drawn into a venture somewhat more hazardous to those around him than trading in wallpaper. The newspapers nowadays are simply bursting with articles explaining, in the greatest of detail and from the lips of prosperous people, how best to deceive the state (to obtain fake licenses, to evade customs duties, or to avoid tax inspections), and how to pocket a fair sum of money from doing so.

So it is, for instance, that one particular butcher, living until recently in the city of Pushkin in Leningrad Oblast, after closely studying the headlines in the central press, decided that there was no better way to improve his lot than through uranium. It has to be said that, to an experienced businessman, the transaction would not have appeared particularly complex—to judge from the newspapers, it is possible to sell uranium on virtually any street, while actually getting hold of it is even simpler. Not for nothing has that distant relative been working for so many years at that Ministry of Atomic Energy closed enterprise near Moscow (in the interests of the investigation, we were asked to name neither the city nor the surnames), and he is all but treading this actual uranium underfoot....

The month was February. The Moscow region was covered with snow. Security, it seemed, had also gone into hibernation for the winter (given, of course, that we proceed on the assumption that in summertime the vigilance of the courageous armed guards actually increases). It was on one such frosty evening that the Moscow relative, without any spying aids (such as a suitcase with a false bottom, a secret pocket in his clothing, or, if the worst should come to the worst, simply a pocket) calmly marched through the entrance to his beloved enterprise, calmly giving a little wave with a bulging mitten (it was there that, a few minutes earlier, he had poured a little of the uranium-235, 90-percent enriched). Of course, no chase ensued: The plant managers only learned of the loss several months later, at the same time as the world public. However, there is nothing to be surprised about here—it is most probable that the manager placed too much trust in the words of Atomic Energy Minister Viktor Mikhaylov, who declared at roughly the very same moment that all fissionable materials at Atomic Energy Ministry enterprises were monitored in the strictest possible manner and that, personally, he did not know of a single documented incidence of "radioactive larceny."

At home, using scales normally employed for weighing potatoes, our hero weighed up his spoils—the arrow on the scales stopped at 3 kg (the primitive instrument ignored the 50-gram makeweight). Then the precious brown powder was concealed in an ordinary closet prior to the arrival of the "businessmen" from the northern capital. You have to agree that the technique for handling radioactive materials typical of some workers at Atomic Energy Ministry enterprises arouses at the very least respect for the heroic profession of the "nuclear scientists"—for people such as these, even 10 Chernobyls are nothing to fear!

The butcher and his St. Petersburg friends—a plumber and a man temporarily out of work—did not delay but came for the goods on the very next train. They proved themselves somewhat more skilled: They asked their host for packaging to ensure safe transportation. However, not all the powder would fit into the small metal tube proffered (which, if we are honest, is also a doubtful defense against irradiation), and the remaining grams were put into an ordinary half-liter can. The commodity was transported in a regular passenger car on a Moscow-St. Petersburg train, and the totally unsuspecting passengers would have been highly surprised, had somebody happened to have a dosimeter to hand.

When, on arrival in Pushkin, the "merchants" put the uranium in a refrigerator (so as not to let it spoil?) and set off around the city markets in search of purchasers, their every move was already being monitored by the St. Petersburg secret service (it was impossible to ascertain at what stage precisely which respectable citizen "grassed" to the Federal Counterintelligence Service). The counterintelligence agents did not intent to pounce on them immediately—it was essential to establish how many people were mixed up in the uranium deals. However, the quest for purchasers dragged on without success—in many ways because, out of ignorance, the butcher and the plumber were asking exorbitant prices, some five or six times over the real value per gram of strategic raw material. The counterintelligence agents could no longer allow these guys to continue freely roaming the streets of St. Petersburg with samples of uranium—this was dangerous, and the time had finally come to think about the health of the people living next door to the ill-fated Pushkin apartment with the uranium lying on a shelf in the refrigerator. Following the operation to intercept the men carried out by officers from the "Grad" operative-combat group, the apartment had to be decontaminated.

Despite the fact that the counterintelligence agents have not succeeded in identifying the channels through which radioactive materials are flowing out from Russia to the West, this operation can be considered a success—after all, the entire quantity of uranium, down to the last gram, was returned to the state. Admittedly, nobody will undertake to guarantee that it will not "disappear" without trace at another Atomic Energy Ministry plant—except, perhaps, a few top officials from the Ministry for Atomic Energy itself, who according to our information our preparing another denial for disingenuous critics. We will report on this at another time.

St Petersburg Threatened With No Electricity

PM1706131394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Sergey Krayukhin: "Necessary to Do Without Electricity During White Nights"]

[Text] St. Petersburg—The "Lentransgaz" Production Association has delivered a tough ultimatum to the "Lenenergo" Joint-Stock Company—it is threatening to stop supplying gas to all St. Petersburg's power stations as of 21 June as a result of outstanding debts.

The penalty [neustoyka] has reached the immense figure of 60 billion rubles. While cast in the role of debtor, the "Lenenergo" Joint-Stock Company, for its part, cannot obtain the money owed to it by its own big customers—enterprises in the former "defense sector." For the people of St. Petersburg the result of this clash between the two giants could be that their apartments will be lit at the end of June not by electricity, but by the dim glow of the white nights.

Dudayev Accuses Russia of 'Political Blackmail'

LD1706132294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1220 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Moscow June 17 TASS—President of Russia's breakaway Chechen Republic Dzhokhar Dudayev accused Russian authorities of "political blackmail" after the Russian Transport Ministry suspended all regular flights to Chechnya since the latter failed to guarantee safety of aircraft over Groznyy.

"The action has shown the world community once again that the Russian leadership does not adhere to any principles, except to those of political blackmail and terrorism", Dudayev said.

A source in the Chechen Information Ministry told TASS by telephone that the action is assessed in the republic as a declaration of an air blockade of Chechnya ordered by Russia's political leadership.

The Chechen Foreign Ministry's statement circulated on Friday, qualified the decision to suspend flights as "not corresponding to the norms of international law and delivering serious damage to the relations between the two countries".

The statement suggested the flights to Chechnya be resumed and qualified the reference to the alleged lack of flight safety as not corresponding to reality.

Security Chief on Groznyy Disturbances

MK1706100094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 17 Jun 94 pp 1,3

[Report by Natalya Pachegina under the "Chechen Republic" rubric: "Opposition Had a Hand in 12 and 13 June Events, State Security Chief Geliskhanov Thinks"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] It has emerged from a telephone conversation with Sultan Geliskhanov, head of Chechnya's state security department, that the earlier quoted figure of 50 criminals was greatly understated. Geliskhanov maintained that at least 300 to 400 bandits offered resistance to the government troops in the residential district. The ringleaders' names, he said, are still being checked out, but it is now clear that in addition to Labazanov who is hiding from justice (he and his close associates escaped from the sealed area 30 minutes before the storming leaving his fighting men to the mercy of fate) and a heavily wounded Suleymanov (who is being treated as an outpatient and being closely guarded by state security operatives of Chechnya) there were men from another group—the one led by Temishev—acting among the criminals. The head of the Chechen security service has no doubt that the names of some other "activists" will become known in time. But these facts and the operational-detection work begun by his department give grounds to assert that leaders of the anti-Dudayev opposition were directly involved in the 12 and 13 June events in Groznyy. Geliskhanov assured NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA that he has at his disposal information that the armed action by the Labazanov-Suleymanov group was only part of the action planned by the opposition for 13 June. For reasons still unknown to Geliskhanov's department, the opposition let down the "criminals" by breaking an agreement on a joint action against the authorities.

The confidential tone of the conversation with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA must have been what made it possible for Geliskhanov to declare that the war of the republic's authorities on the criminal world will continue, and very soon. The place of deployment, the numerical strength of the gangs and the weapons they have—all these things are known. The government troops will begin in the coming few days to eliminate three more groups like the one already destroyed. In the opinion of the head of the state security of Chechnya, both the attempt on the life of the president in late May and the Labazanov-Suleymanov armed rebellion (for which purpose, Geliskhanov thinks, Khoza Suleymanov was released from the Russian "Butyrka" prison) were

organized by Russia, which took advantage of the anti-Dudayev opposition's burning desire to come back to power in the republic. In his exclusive wish to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA Sultan Geliskhanov remarked "it's time to stop trusting people who bill themselves as politicians," and added that "both in Chechnya and in Russia they have paid in blood for this sort of myopia." [passage omitted]

Shakhray: Emergency Situation Regarding Supplies to North

LD1706215794

[Editorial Report] Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian at 1118 GMT on 17 June broadcasts a report from Krasnoyarsk where Russian Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray is leading a special commission at work there today. He assessed the situation regarding the delivery of cargo to the Russian far north as an "emergency."

He says that the Russian Government will do everything possible to ensure that fuel and food are delivered in full to the northerners, though there will be difficulties with technical cargo and building materials, most of which have not yet been delivered to the river and sea ports.

The Yenisey River Shipping Line manager has said that only a third of its 2,200 vessels are ready for the navigation season since customers have failed to pay for the 1993 delivery season and conclude new agreements for this season. This has resulted in many of the staff being sent off on enforced holidays. Some have started resigning.

It was pointed out at a meeting between the government commission and heads of administration of the northern regions of Krasnoyarsk Kray and the Taymir and Evenkiy autonomous districts that money had been allocated from the federal budget, but only for the delivery of goods.

Shakhray told ITAR-TASS on the issue of northerners leaving the north that a total flight of people from there should be prevented. Northerners should be given assistance in relocation. He hopes that they will be relocated to eastern regions of Russia where the climate is similar to that of the northern regions and where the jobs' issue is not so difficult.

Shakhray stresses that the Russian north and polar regions are very important to the country's economy and they have a future. People should work on a shift basis and not live there permanently.

The deputy prime minister also points out at a final news conference that "in spite of all the economic difficulties, we will continue to allocate money for the needs of the indigenous peoples of the north. These people have nowhere to go and they must have a humane standard of living."

Deputy Interior Minister Visits N. Ossetia, Ingushetia

LD1906090394 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 0630 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] Yevgeniy Abramov, first deputy interior minister of the Russian Federation, completed a three-day working visit to North Ossetia and Ingushetia on 18 June. A correspondent from the POSTFAKTUM news agency learned at the Russian Interior Ministry's public relations center that Militia Colonel General Abramov met with North Ossetian President Galazov, Ingush President Aushev, and [Aleksandr] Lozovoy, chief of the interim administration in the area of the state of emergency. During the meeting, they planned a package of specific measures to raise the efficiency of the work of the internal affairs bodies in the rayons.

Russian Procurator Ilyushenko Visiting N. Caucasus

Announces Special Procuracy

LD1706125994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0646 GMT 17 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 17 June—A procuracy with special powers is to be set up in the state of emergency zone in North Caucasus. This was announced on 16 June by Aleksey Ilyushenko, acting Russian Federation procurator general, who is visiting Vladikavkaz. He said that this decision was made in order to ensure that laws are complied with and to coordinate the work of investigative bodies.

Aleksey Ilyushenko is touring the North Caucasus in order to familiarize himself with the situation in the region and to prepare proposals for a meeting of the Russian Government which will examine progress in implementing Russian presidential edicts and cabinet decisions on the return of refugees to their former homes.

Staff of Ingush Procuracy Dismissed

LD1706190694 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] The entire staff of the procuracy of the Republic of Ingushetia has been dismissed, Aleksey Ilyushenko, acting Russian Federation procurator general, who was paying a visit to the state of emergency zone, said at a meeting with members of the government of North Ossetia, RIA reported. According to Aleksey Ilyushenko, the reasons behind the dismissal were bribery and corruption in the apparatus of the republic's procuracy. The new staff of the procuracy will be appointed within the next two to three weeks.

Murder To Be Investigated Further

LD1806174294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1721 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz June 18 TASS—"Additional investigation should be held" in the murder of Viktor Polyanichko and his associates, Acting Russian Procurator General Aleksey Ilyushenko said here today.

Ilyushenko has completed a trip to Northern Ossetia and Ingushetia as part of preparations for a Russian Government meeting on problems of these republics.

He said that "several versions of murder of former head of the temporary administration Polyanichko and the accompanying officials have been analyzed but not confirmed."

The temporary administration head and the accompanying military were killed on August 1, 1993, near the Tarskoye settlement of the North Ossetian Prigorodnyy region. Unidentified persons put under automatic gun fire the car of Polyanichko and head of the Vladikavkaz garrison Major-General Anatoliy Koretskiy. Both died of wounds on the spot. The fire exchange also fatally wounded body guard of the temporary administration head Senior Lieutenant Viktor Kravchuk.

Tatarastan, Komi Sign Cooperation Agreement

LD1706205194 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Today, Tatarstan President Mintimer Shaymiyev and Yuriy Spiridonov, head of the Komi Republic, ceremonially signed an agreement on friendship and cooperation in Kazan. Here is our Kazan correspondent Zhaudat Aminov.

[Aminov] At a news conference given straight after the signing of the agreement it was said that an agreement of this kind strengthens Russia as a great and distinctive state that contains many curious phenomenon.

Boris Yeltsin is perhaps the only person in Russia's leadership who really understands what a federation is, Yuriy Spiridonov said. It is good that he is president, Mintimer Shaymiyev said, agreeing. Both leaders believe that the time is not far off when the federation treaty issue will have to be tackled again and the federation will be built up from below, taking into account the interests of the republics and the regions.

Russia's oil-producing regions, which include Tatarstan and Komi, today founded a consortium to jointly manage the export of fuel. The agreement promises to be mutually advantageous.

Both leaders agreed on closer cooperation at the Federation Council level, too, although they were of the opinion that that body had yet to assume a proper role and did not have any real influence on the situation.

Tatarstan Pleased With Power-Sharing Treaty

LD2006091694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0903 GMT 20 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan June 20 TASS—Vice-President of Tatarstan Vasiliy Likhachev characterised the Russian-Tatarstan power-sharing treaty as a "most functional document". He praised Russian President Boris Yeltsin's decree ordering the foundation of a committee to regulate the implementation of the treaty. An analogous committee has already been formed in Tatarstan.

The vice-president said his republic's treaty with the Russian Federation was the first document in Russia's history which established constructive cooperation between a region and the centre. He noted that the Tatarstan commission already has a specific programme for the agreement's realisation. For example, Tatarstan plans to play a role in federal-level economic programmes, such as the ones for the production of Tu-204-200 aircraft, cars, and oil-tankers.

Yeltsin's decree is a significant step forward in the implementation of radical reforms aimed at turning Russia into a truly democratic federation, Likhachev commented.

Yeltsin's Far East Tour Recapped

PM2006091794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 2

[Report by Vasiliy Kononenko: "B. Yeltsin Has Made Suggestions To His Subordinates Concerning Results of His Trip to the Amur District, Tuva, and Novosibirsk"]

[Text] President B. Yeltsin's return from a three-day tour of the country—he visited Blagoveshchensk, Tuva, and Novosibirsk—has not been covered by television and the newspapers. But it was at this concluding stage of the program that the impressions which the president took away from his trip seem to have emerged. At an improvised conference at the airport lounge (O. Soskovets, A. Shokhin, A. Zaveryukha, P. Grachev, A. Kozyrev, V. Yerin, S. Filatov, and other high-ranking officials were present) the president imparted his impressions and, most important, demanded an investigation of many problems which have become obvious to him.

In Blagoveshchensk he agreed with the oblast leadership's suggestion to leave up to 20 percent of the gold that is mined in the local budget. But with regard to the privatization of gold mines he said: "We still have to look at the matter...." Obviously he was informed of the unhealthy situation in the oblast connected with the auctioning off of the Pokrovskoye deposit. According to local journalists it was sold for 12 billion rubles [R] while its real cost is something like 2-3 trillion. And for some reason the auction was organized in such a way that the opportunities for bidding were limited and as a result the

titbit went to the "Tokur zoloto" company. In this connection even the local prosecutor's office has protested.

The president demanded that his subordinates investigate the privatization of large industrial establishments and mineral deposits around which fighting between the "money-bags" has broken out.

In the Amur district there was also a discussion of the project to construct a cosmodrome on the basis of a strategic missile division. The president did not make a decision there but promised to think it all over. In Moscow he demanded that the military department and other officials work on this scenario and submit their ideas to him very soon.

At the airport there was also talk of the situation in Tuva. In Kyzyl after a conference with the local leadership B. Yeltsin, at a meeting with workers of Tuva's power structures, promised to give money for the construction of a sheepskin factory. "We will give as much money as you can assimilate," he said, which gave rise to applause from the workers of the president's apparatus and the Supreme Hural. He also promised help for the development of their water transport. According to some calculations at least R40 billion will be required for this just for a start. Then an unexpected phrase was heard which shocked many people, primarily A. Shokhin.

"I forbid all government officials and all presidential structures from demanding that the republic earn money for itself and not be subsidized. That is impossible. The necessary economic infrastructure does not exist in the republic. It must be created gradually. The Amur district is another matter. Everything necessary exists there and I criticized the local leadership for its lack of initiative."

At "Vnukovo-2" he said more or less the following: Not all republics can be treated the same. From this demand of the president's it may be concluded that today he prefers to pay off Kyzyl with money rather than have political problems. As we know the republic has adopted a Constitution which opens up an opportunity for it to leave Russia. Local nationalists are exploiting this subject, although they have no real support among the people.

FCIS To Ensure Security in Nakhodza Free Economic Zone

LD1806165494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1523 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] The Federal Counterintelligence Service (FCIS) intends to take an active part in ensuring security in the free economic zone Nakhodka situated in Russia's Far East.

Chief of the FCIS Public Relations Center Aleksandr Mikhailov reported to Interfax Saturday that Director of the service Sergey Stepashin who was on an inspection trip throughout this region this week commissioned local counterintelligence officers to fulfil this task.

In Mikhailov's words, separate criminal clans use the opportunities of the free economic zone to inflict damage to the economy of the country as a whole and to the economy of the Far East in particular.

Stepashin called counterintelligence officers to adopt all necessary measures to ensure normal functioning of Nakhodka free economic zone.

Second Stage of Border Protection Under Way in Far East

LD2006103794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0918 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Text] Stage two of a large-scale border operation, codenamed Putina (Fishing Season), has got under way in the Pacific.

As Colonel Aleksandr Suvorov, a spokesman for the Russian border troops, has told INTERFAX, the action aims at curbing border infiltration, halting trawling in Russia's territorial waters and export of illegally caught sea products, as well as safeguarding the environment.

Units of the North-Eastern Border District and Pacific District resumed the operation on Sunday. Taking part will be up to 60 percent of the border district's ships and aircraft, and about 10 percent of its arms have been set aside for reserve.

During Putina's first stage that lasted from April 20 to May 10, four Japanese and 16 Russian boats were detained for border violations. The sum of imposed fines amounted to 202 million rubles and 15,000 dollars. Legal proceedings were initiated against two Russian captains.

The prevented damage is estimated at 120 billion rubles.

Yeltsin Makes Administration Changes in Belgorod, Krasnodar

LD2006092694 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0900 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has appointed Georgiy Golikov head of administration of the city of Belgorod for the period till the relevant local self-rule bodies are formed. This was reported today by the presidential press service.

By another decree he released Nikolay Yegorov from the post of head of administration of the Krasnodar Kray in connection with his assignment to another post. The press service gives no information as to who has been appoined instead of him.

'Hidden Unemployment' Plagues Rostov

PM1706135194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 16 Jun 94 p 2

[Report by Gennadiy Belotserkovskiy: "'Rostselmash' Is Not Producing Combines"]

[Text] Industry in Rostov, the largest industrial center on the Don, has been practically paralyzed. Since the start of the year not a single combine has been produced by the "Rostselmash" Joint-Stock Company, the flagship of national agricultural machine-building. At the same time there are no crowds of unemployed people on the city streets.

The reason is that the firm's directors are trying by every possible means to preserve jobs, thereby creating hidden unemployment, which has exceeded 5 percent in the city. At the same time official unemployment stands at less than half a percent. Of course, this policy prevents a social explosion, but at the same time it also hampers structural restructuring of the economy and the flow of cadres into spheres where they can be more profitably used. Many people believe that the reserves of this policy have been exhausted, and when the real bankruptcies of cumbersome monsters begin, the number of people wending their way to the employment service will increase by an order of magnitude. Are they ready for this?

"We are ready," I was told at Rostov City Employment Center. "We have more than 150 specialists and all our work stations are computerized. Over 100 computers link Rostov City Employment Center with eight rayon employment centers, and with the imminent introduction of modems these will be linked in a single information network. This will make it easier for the unemployed to find work."

A number of strong service departments have been formed within the center. The main one aims to facilitate job placement and employment support. Since the start of this year, half of the 5,000 people who have come to this department have found work. This is not a bad result in the present circumstances. Unemployment benefit is also issued here, and is received by approximately 1,500 people.

But the most important aspect, the center believes, is the accelerated creation of new jobs and an active policy on the labor market. Over 2 billion rubles have already been earmarked for this since the start of the year. Of these, 100 million have been received by the "Bearing Plant" Joint-Stock Company, where they have started assembling KamAZ trucks using Volga components. They have already returned the money.

Roundup on Provincial Affairs

MK1706121094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 17 Jun 94 p 2

[Untitled, unattributed reports under the "Provincial Chronicle" rubric]

[Text] Kazan—A plenipotentiary mission of Tataria [Tatarstan] in Russia has been instituted by an edict of the republic's president. Nail Aminov, deputy chairman of the Russian Federation State Committee on Federation and Nationalities Affairs, has been appointed envoy plenipotentiary.

Cheboksary—Chuvashia President Nikolay Fedorov has suspended by edict some of the articles in the republic's law on the dismantling of state ownership and privatization of republican and municipal property. At the same time he has pointed out that there will be no major changes in the privatization policy.

Khabarovsk—The local kray committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation has circulated a statement on Russo-Chinese relations which says in part that the expansion of bilateral relations should take account of the Far Eastern territories' interests and the inviolability of the existing borders. The Communists demand that the Russian Federation Government denounce the 1991 border treaty and hold talks with the Chinese side with the participation of representatives of the kray.

International Affairs

Israeli Foreign Minister on Crimea

LD1806143994 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Interviewed by a UNIAN correspondent, Shimon Peres, head of the Israeli external political department, noted that in spite of this being his "first time in Odessa," he "understood why this beautiful city is the soul of all the world's Jews."

Asked whether he could draw a parallel between the issue of Crimean autonomy in Ukraine and that of Palestine in Israel, the minister answered in the affirmative: "Undoubtedly so. In both cases, efforts to improve relations are more expedient than amending borders. Under conditions of tension, there is no point in talking about borders. An atmosphere of mutual respect should be created. This would guarantee success in our negotiations in the United States. Progress begins when the sides realize that force gives in to intelligence."

Peres Ends Visit

LD1606210494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2032 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Aleksey Trotsenko for TASS]

[Text] Kiev 16 June TASS—Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko and his Israeli counterpart Shim'on Peres have praised results of the latter's two days' official visit to Ukraine.

"Successful development of friendship and cooperation between our countries" was once again reaffirmed during the visit, Zlenko told a press conference on Thursday [16 Jun].

According to him, Ukraine became native land for many Jews. They made a contribution to Ukrainian culture.

In this connection, he mentioned large-scale festivities held in Ukraine to mark the 135th anniversary of Sholom Aleykhem, a classic of Jewish literature.

According to Peres, his stay in Ukraine has made a very good impression. I am sure we will be able to open a new chapter in the development of friendship and cooperation between Israel and Ukraine, Peres said.

Kravchuk Answers Questions on Russia, Crimea, Reform

LD1806132394

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 0710 GMT on 18 June, on the "How Shall We Live" program, broadcasts live a 45-minute question-and-answer session with Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk answering viewers' questions from a studio in Kiev linked up with a studio in Moscow.

Asked why he wants to stay in power, Kravchuk replies: "There are many reasons. The first and most important is the fact that over the last two and a half years, Ukraine has made very important and very serious steps toward forming its own statehood and reorientating the economy toward the market and reforms. Over these years, Ukraine has become a state in full measure and has been recognized by the world community.

"Obviously, I am not trying to take credit for all these achievements; I realize these have been achieved by the people and all the power structures. In spite of all the criticisms, they have made very important steps in this direction. Therefore, I would like to see that everything that has been planned and implemented, all the foundations that have been laid, should develop and be consolidated. This is one of the most important reasons."

In reply to criticism that during recent years, life in the Republic has deteriorated, Kravchuk said: "Yes, the material life has not improved for the majority of the people, and for a considerable part it has even deteriorated. I can explain this. Such a major transition from one system to another, such major changes in society, the change in economic and politic systems certainly involves major consequences, and people can feel this for themselves; this is inevitable. Neither Ukraine nor other states are an exception here."

Asked whether he, as the president, has created the necessary conditions for implementing the reforms, Kravchuk says: "The conditions were created. It is another matter that it was not easy to find educated and professional people in the situation that evolved—I mean, we started the reforms with the personnel potential of the past. Attempts to introduce new people into the government—there were such attempts in the Fokin and Kuchma governments, but to my great regret and sadness, the people who joined the government with good intentions to step up the reforms failed to implement them."

Kravchuk is asked whether he regards himself as a nationalist. He replies: "I am very often asked this question here in Ukraine. Some call me a nationalist, while others call me a betrayer of national interests; in other words, there is one point of view on the left and another on the right." He continues: "My reply will be brief: I have defended and will defend the interests of the people of Ukraine, the national interests, because there can be no other interests than state interests, integrity, and the independence of Ukraine and its statehood. This is my sacred duty."

To the accusations that the disruption of economic ties has done a great deal of damage to common people, Kravchuk agrees that politicians are to blame for this. He says: "I will be honest with you. I am ready to sign a document on free trade with Russia tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, and I have proposed this repeatedly. But let us be consistent. There should be no exceptions to free trade. In other words, Ukraine should not make

exceptions and Russia should not make exceptions, if we are talking about free trade where goods move freely. But Russia says it would not be beneficial to subject its oil, gas, and nonferrous metals to the sphere of the free movement of goods—on the whole, more than 60 different goods that earn Russia's revenue. In such a case, Ukrainian manufacturers would have to buy oil and gas for twice as much as do Russian manufacturers. How can they compete with Russian manufacturers? They cannot. Therefore, I agree with you: The political leadership is to blame for this, but both political leaderships, not only Ukraine's; one should not reduce this to saying that we are the ones pursuing some special policy."

Asked about national ideology, Kravchuk says: "We are not dividing people according to their nationality either in the economic, political, legal, or any other aspect." He adds: "We are building a civil society and all our ideology is based on this. We know and firmly believe that to build a state in a multinational country on the basis of nationality would be dangerous for the development of this state. This would be grounds for possible contradictions today and tomorrow."

Touching upon Crimea and federalism, Kravchuk says: "Evidently, it is not easy at present to find a clear-cut and correct solution." He adds: "I am advocating and will advocate the most decisive economic sovereignty of the regions; in other words, the widest and fullest rights and freedoms as regards the budget, the formation of the budget from below, and the utilization of resources and protection of people's interests taking into account the peculiarities of a particular region."

To the accusation that Ukraine has isolated itself from Russia, Kravchuk replies: "I cannot agree that we have isolated ourselves. Only recently, apart from signing the treaty on friendship and cooperation with Russia, we have signed more than 70 different political, economic, and other documents." He adds: "It was not Ukraine who started erecting borders, but Russia—one can check the documents. It is not Ukraine who stands firmly at a customs post today and says that customs duties are necessary."

Crimean President Speaks at Swiss Conference

LD1806165194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1513 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS special correspondents Andrey Krasnoshchekov and Konstantin Pribytkov]

[Text] Crans Montana, Switzerland 18 June TASS—One can have an absolutely tranquil vacation in the Crimea. It is the best resort place in the former Soviet Union, Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov told an exclusive ITAR-TASS interview on Friday [17 June] in the Swiss mountain resort of Crans-Montana. The president is attending an international forum on East-West cooperation.

"There is no need to worry, and this is not because I am optimistic by nature, but because the reality proves premature character of rumors claiming aggravated situation in the Crimea," he said.

Commenting on the Simferopol-Kiev relations, the president said that the "stage of unilateral pressure and force methods has ceased to exist." The tension can be removed through negotiations following the example of Russia and Tatarstan. The current situation is "not a confrontation but the necessary elucidation of relations," said Yuriy Meshkov. Further dialogue will help to reach accord to ensure certainty and stability.

If Russia influences the situation rather actively, things will normalize for both Ukraine, the Crimea and Russia, stressed the Crimean leader. As for the Crimean-Russian relations, the bilateral trade and economic agreements, including the agreement with the Moscow government, shall be filled in with content. "This opens up great prospects, and it is up to us not to miss them," he added.

Asked what Russia shall do now, the president said it "should use all of its possibilities and finally satisfy its state interest." Solution to the Black Sea Fleet problem would, certainly, help the stabilization but, unfortunately, there are attempts to settle the problem without the Crimean participation, noted Meshkov.

"The Black Sea Fleet can and must be located on our territory. The Crimea does not and will not have problems with the Black Sea Fleet," said the Crimean leader.

Cooperation With NATO To Be Discussed After Fleet Division

LD1506183094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1537 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] The criteria for cooperation between NATO and the Ukrainian Navy would not be discussed before the Black Sea Fleet is divided between Ukraine and Russia, General Antonio Milani, deputy commander of the NATO southern flank, told journalists in Sevastopol where he arrived at the invitation of the Ukrainian armed force command.

He met with Vice Admiral Volodymyr Bezkorovaynyy, commander of the Ukrainian Navy, in the city.

Milani said that his visit to Sevastopol had nothing to do with the tense situation there and that his party would not meet with the Crimean leadership.

He emphasized that Ukraine was a sovereign state which had to tackle its domestic problems on its own.

Following his meeting with Milani, Bezkorovaynyy told INTERFAX-Ukraine that his country badly needed cooperation with NATO in the framework of the Partnership for Peace program which, he thought, marked the start of reorienting military and political blocks to the maintenance of peace.

Bezkorovaynyy said that cooperation between the Ukrainian armed forces and NATO and planning of joint activities at the initial stage had been discussed in the framework of the program.

He added that exchange of experts who would concentrate on specific issues in interaction between the Ukrainian Navy and NATO had been discussed at the meeting.

Moroz Against Dividing Black Sea Fleet

LD1906214994 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2100 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] Oleksandr Moroz, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Council, has spoken out against the division of the Black Sea Fleet. At a meeting with the Crimean Supreme Council deputies he proposed that the Black Sea Fleet should not be regarded as an object to be divided.

According to Moroz, the Black Sea Fleet should be used jointly by Ukraine and Russia with the fleet remaining under a unified joint command, and with Russia giving orders to one part of the fleet and Ukraine to the other. There must be separate commands for parts the parts, but a joint command as well, so that the fleet should not be demolished as a fighting unit. The Black Sea is a special interest zone for Ukraine and Russia.

Official on Black Sea Cooperation Body

LD2006093294 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 0700 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Text] A delegation from Ukraine's Supreme Council has left for Bucharest. It will take part in the work of the third session of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Parliamentary Assembly. Before departing, [Oleksandr Tkachenko,] the head of the delegation and first deputy chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Council, was interviewed.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] How do you see the role of the assembly in improving our mutual relations, both in economic and political life, with the countries which have already joined the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Parliamentary Assembly?

[Tkachenko] I think that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Parliamentary Assembly has set itself (?three tasks): [First] improving the political situation in the Black Sea region; second, the establishment of economic mutual relations and economic mutual assistance [words indistinct] creating its own bank, on which fruitful work [words indistinct]; and the third thing is undoubtedly our cooperation on issues of scientific and technical (?progress).

I believe that our trip to the third session of the assembly sets a number of cardinal tasks, especially on issues of economic cooperation between our states, which have joined this assembly. The main issue [words indistinct] is undoubtedly security in this region, and the second issue is elaboration of economic mutual relations and the creation of a single financial bank.

[Correspondent] Will Ukraine be proposing such a package of documents.

[Tkachenko] Undoubtedly we will be proposing our documents, well, within the program of the agenda which was planned for this meeting. [end recording]

Defense Minister Views Destruction of Missile in U.S.

LD1806013994 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Kiev—The press service of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense has reported that on 16 June, Army General Vitaliy Radetskyy, Ukraine's minister of defense, visited Elsworth Airbase (in South Dakota) during his official visit to the United States. He viewed the missile launch silo of a strategic ballistic missile, which had been prepared for elimination and destruction in the presence of the head of the Ukrainian military department. Vitaliy Radetskyy evaluated this step as a manifestation of confidence in and respect for Ukraine, and also as a continuation of mutually beneficial relations between the military departments of both countries.

On 17 June, Vitaliy Radetskyy met employees of the RAND Corporation in Los Angeles. During the conversation he stressed that as a guarantee of its national security Ukraine has its own armed forces and also its defense industry, which should provide the military with armaments and fighting equipment.

Joint Exercise With U.S. To Be Held in Near Future

PM1706115994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Jun 94 p 3

[ITAR-TASS report: "Ready for Exercises"]

[Text] Washington, 16 June—The U.S. and Ukrainian defense ministers have declared their intention to conduct joint military exercises to work through maneuvers that might be involved in peacekeeping operations.

"I expect these exercises to be held in the very near future," Vitaliy Radetskiy said during a visit with William Perry to the naval base in Norfolk, Virginia.

The Ukrainian minister is visiting the United States within the framework of the U.S.-Ukrainian program for cooperation in the defense sphere. The U.S. defense secretary paid an official visit to Ukraine in March this year, during which he inspected Ukrainian missile positions.

Entrepreneurs on Destruction of Russian Economic Ties

LD1806153894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] At their conference in Kiev the Russian and Ukrainian Unions of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs adopted a joint appeal to their presidents, parliaments and governments, expressing grave concern over the continuing destruction of economic ties between the two countries. According to the authors of the appeal, the reason for this lies in the complicated settlements and unjustified customs restrictions between Russia and Ukraine, which lead to stopping, completely or partially, work at the plants and factories producing consumer goods and the essential types of industrial products.

The industrialists and entrepreneurs urged the leaders of their countries to create appropriate conditions for economic integration between Russia and Ukraine and dismantle all the barriers artificially put on the road of cooperation. In their view the first steps in this direction could be to open affiliations of Ukrainian banks in Russia and Russian in Ukraine, establish preferential regime in bilateral trade, lift the demand for advance payments and set up joint industrial and financial groups.

The appeal was signed by the leaders of the Russian and Ukrainian Unions of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, Arkady Volsky and Leonid Kuchma. Kuchma is a candidate for presidential elections in Ukraine planned for 26 June.

National Affairs

Crimean Minister: Kiev Continues 'Massing Forces'

LD1806151894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] The Crimean Minister of Internal Affairs Major General Valeriy Kuznetsov told INTERFAX that in the small hours of 16 June an approximately 30-man strong element of the Ukrainian riot police arrived from base near Odessa in Crimea. The Crimean authorities had not been notified.

According to Kuznetsov, Kiev kept massing forces in the region in violation of the Ukrainian bill on the division of powers between the Ukrainian and Crimean authorities.

Crimean Interior Ministry Refutes Need for Ukrainian Troops

LD1806162794 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1500 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] [Announcer Marchenko] Elements of the Ukrainian Interior Ministry's special forces arrived in Simferopol last night. Aleksey Tkach, deputy head of the Republic's Interior Ministry explained the aim of the deployment for our radio station.

[Begin Tkach recording] Yes, it is true that such an outfit was deployed. They are special forces from the 21st special detachment. The aim of their transfer is, generally speaking, the situation that has emerged in connection with the fact that the Crimean golden eagles [berkuty] are not carrying out their duties. Around a third of the Crimean golden eagles are busy guarding [Crimean President] Meshkov and [Crimean Interior Minister] Kuznetsov himself. They are not looking after public order. [end recording]

[Marchenko] We asked the Crimean interior minister, Valeriy Kuznetsov, to comment on this statement by the Ukrainian Interior Ministry.

[Begin Kuznetsov recording] There is no slacking. The Interior Ministry of the Crimean Republic is fulfilling its obligations. I will tell you one thing: They [Ukraine] are doing everything in their power now to dissolve the Interior Ministry of the Crimean Republic, which is against the Constitution of the Crimean Republic and even Ukraine's law on delegating powers. They are breaking a lot of the laws of both Ukraine and Crimea. [end recording]

Crimea Says Ukrainian Special Purpose Unit Redeployed

LD1806123694 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1100 GMT 18 Jun 94

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] According to Crimean Interior Minister Valeriy Kuznetsov, without telling the Crimean authorities the Ukrainian Interior Ministry has redeployed an independent special purpose detachment from the Odessa region near Simferopol. In the general's [as heard] words, official Kiev continues the policy of stepping up its military presence in the region.

Navy Refutes Baltin Allegations on Training

LD1806145194 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 0700 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Black Sea Fleet Commander Admiral Eduard Baltin's remark—that he refused to enrol Sevastopol Naval Institute graduates in the fleet because of the poor quality of their training—has not gone unremarked by the press center of the Ukrainian Navy. The press center's statement in this connection stresses that the level of knowledge, demonstrated by the first group of the institute's officer graduates in the course of working for their diplomas, was high. Three of them were awarded both lieutenants' shoulder straps and golden medals, and another 29 received higher educational institution graduation diplomas with honors.

Vice Admiral Mykola Klitnyy, state commission chairman and ex-chief of staff of the Black Sea Fleet, said

that the quality of education at the institute has traditionally been high. In the two years that have passed since the reorganization of naval schools into the institute, the skills and professional knowledge of the professors and lecturers have not been lost.

It is hard to add anything to Klitnyy's words. It is only possible to point out that the institute's Ukrainian status causes Black Sea Fleet officials to react in certain way, the press center's statement says. It is planned, incidentally, that 57 of the institute's graduates will serve in the Russian Navy.

Attempt Made on Life of People's Deputy Candidate

LD1806142894 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2000 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Kharkov, [no date as received]—As a UNIAN correspondent learned, on 16 June an attempt was made on the life of Oleksiy Stelmakh, age 28, a people's deputy candidate of the city council, Constituency No. 70, and editor of the independent city newspaper V KAZHDYY DOM [TO EVERY HOUSE] with the largest circulation in the city. A stranger accosted him at the entrance to the editorial office and hit him several times on the head with a heavy metal object, thus inflicting grave bodily injuries. The stranger disappeared.

In an interview with a UNIAN correspondent Oleksiy Stelmakh said he believed this was a political attempt, because his chances of winning in the constituency were extremely high.

Criminal proceedings have been instituted in connection with this attack.

Kuchma Focusing on Taxation, Currency Issues for Elections

LD1706195694 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1630 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Kharkov—At a news conference for local journalists on 16 June, Leonid Kuchma, a candidate for president of Ukraine, expressed the opinion that Ukrainian society is continuing to live under socialism, that the state is to be found on the brink of a national catastrophe, deindustrialization of the country is occurring, it is being turned into a raw materials appendage, and it is sliding toward an African path of development.

In the event of his election as president, Leonid Kuchma considers his most important steps to be resolving issues of taxation policy, the revocation of a fixed currency exchange rate, getting banking, credit, and financial activity going, and resolving the non-payments problem. In Kuchma's opinion, one should conduct forced small privatization and return currency from abroad. The candidate for the post of president believes that land and all means of production should become goods in future, but if one were to declare land to be goods now, one could end up with nothing.

Once again Leonid Kuchma expressed himself against the election of a prime minister before the presidential election, and noted that although he considers Vitaliy Masol to be an experienced individual, Masol's present views are not known, and on the whole he considers "all of this" to be "a dangerous game."

At the news conference, Leonid Kuchma renounced some of the assertions he made during his previous meeting with representatives of the nonstate sector of the economy.

Criticizes Masol Appointment

LD1806190994 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1530 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Kharkov [no dateline as received]—While in the oblast on 17 June, Leonid Kuchma, president of the Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs and a candidate for president of Ukraine, expressed himself critically regarding the Supreme Council having elected Vitaliy Masol as the new prime minister. He is convinced that this does not demonstrate the recognition of this person's authority, but is a manifestation of ordinary political games on the eve of the presidential election. "If Ukraine's voters elect someone other than Leonid Kravchuk or Oleksandr Moroz as president on 26 June, Leonid Kuchma stressed, then cooperation between the prime minister and the president will be fairly problematical."

Leonid Kuchma did not rule out that the last week in the presidential marathon will bring much that is unexpected. In particular, in his opinion, contenders for the presidential seat will withdraw their candidacies. If Oleksandr Moroz does this, Leonid Kuchma expressed the hope that his [Moroz's] electorate will vote for Leonid Kuchma. In the opinion of Leonid Danylovych Kuchma, the forces supporting him in Ukraine's east and south should influence changes to the existing state of affairs more actively, when in fact western Ukraine is dictating its conditions to the whole of the 50 million-strong country.

Leonid Kuchma maintained: "If I am not elected, this will not be a great tragedy for me. On the whole, I am returning to politics only in order to save Ukraine. Otherwise, I would not risk going into the corridors of power."

Moroz Views Goals in Parliament, Elections

WS2006094594 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 14 Jun 94 p 2

[News conference by Ukrainian Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz by unidentified correspondents on 11 June; place not given; edited by Svitlana Pysarenko: "I Stand for Protection of Social Achievements"]

[Text] On 11 June, Ukrainian Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz met with journalists, as a

candidate for the Ukrainian president. But before answering journalists' questions, the Ukrainian Supreme Council chairman reported on the future activities of the parliament. In particular, this relates to the introduction of changes and amendments to the Law on Local Councils and Self-Government, aimed at defining equal subordination of council chairmen, as well as the need to more accurately define the electoral procedures and counting of votes to select the winners.

It has been planned to focus the future work of the parliament on economic issues. Parliament will hear a report by the Cabinet of Ministers on the current situation, in order to reduce risk and simultaneously define the starting point for the new authorities. Oleksandr Moroz is to deliver a report on the problems of stabilizing the economic situation, and to define the main directions for parliament action. Only following that, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk will submit to the Supreme Council for approval the candidate for prime minister, whose plan for action would be able to confirm all decisions by the Supreme Council. All this is being done, Oleksandr Moroz noted, so that both legislative and executive authorities bear responsibility for the coordination of actions of the Supreme Council and the Cabinet of Ministers. Oleksandr Moroz also voiced his support for amplifying functions and broadening the powers of the Cabinet of Ministers.

Of course, there were tricky questions and smart answers as well. Here is the quintessence. Read and judge for yourself:

[Correspondent] If the Cabinet of Ministers and the prime minister obtained broader executive powers than its current ones, this would mean taking them away from the president. What functions, in your opinion, should the head of state have?

[Moroz] He should represent Ukraine so that it does not lose its image before the world community as a member of international organizations, in issues concerning nuclear weapons, or trade relations. The president must defend Ukraine's image. Regarding internal affairs, the president is not able to concentrate on executive functions, he must hand them over to the Cabinet of Ministers. Yet, the president should be a guarantor of the Constitution, he should prevent any violations.

[Correspondent] Currently, there is an opinion that it is inexpedient to form a government before electing the president. What is your standpoint on this issue?

[Moroz] The point is not to form the government, but to appoint the prime minister. No one can be sure that the president will be elected.

[Correspondent] But there is a constitutional provision saying the new president presents the candidate for prime minister.

[Moroz] No. It has been written in the Constitution that the president presents the prime minister. If the Supreme Council approves him in three days from now, it will do the same in three weeks.

[Correspondent] You are not campaigning much for yourself. Perhaps you need to meet with company staffs more often? Is it important for you to participate in the presidential campaign?

[Moroz] My main task was to begin the Supreme Council's work. When I was in the hospital, I was actively campaigning for myself among the medical personnel. In general, I could put it this way: "I am not asking you to vote for me, but for the man you trust. I am not seeking power, but my goal is to become the president." I will be holding meetings with staffs.

[Correspondent] It has been rumored that if you do not become the president, you will begin a battle against the presidency. Is that so?

[Moroz] No. The main point is to find within society the optimum correlations between powers and functions of different authorities. In Germany, for instance, all this was done, I would say, in an intelligent manner. I would also like us to define everything in an optimum way, so that hair does not stand on end on heads of people supporting the division of power....

[Correspondent] In which office do you think you would feel better—that of Supreme Council chairman, or president?

[Moroz] I cannot say which role is better: I became the chairman quite recently, and I have not yet worked as the president. Therefore, I will answer this question later.

[Correspondent] Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk said that he would hold consultations concerning the candidacy for prime minister. Has this taken place, and has the candidacy been approved?

[Moroz] Yes. Leonid Kravchuk attended the Supreme Council session. Six names were discussed, and we agreed on two of them. But since the president is to name them, I will not do it.

[Correspondent] Do you consider it necessary that a presidential candidate submit his income declaration?

[Moroz] Of course, this is a norm of the law, and I have complied with it. As a matter of fact, my declaration has not stunned anybody.

[Correspondent] If this is not a secret, what is your salary?

[Moroz] I have not yet received it, but it approximately amounts to 2-2.5 million [currency not specified].

[Correspondent] President Kravchuk has recently said that he does not see poorly dressed or hungry people in Ukraine...

[Moroz] There is nothing strange about this if someone stays among well-dressed and well-fed people.

However, a theater actress lives in my building. Her pension is not enough to make ends meet. I help her with food that I grow on my countryside farm. It is difficult for her to receive such help, and it is also difficult for me that I must help her in such a way.

[Correspondent] If Kravchuk and Kuchma advance to the second round of elections, for whom will you vote?

[Moroz] I will tell you that after 26 June, when they advance to the second round.

[Correspondent] What, in your opinion, will be the results of the 24 July elections for Ukrainian people's deputies in 112 constituencies?

[Moroz] I believe that the current proportions among forces in the Supreme Council will be preserved. However, deputies will not be elected everywhere. Perhaps we will have around 60-70 people elected.

[Correspondent] You have four grandchildren. Have you already built, for example, a cottage for them?

[Moroz] I feel shameful that I have not done anything like that for them. I recall when I was removing couch-grass from my farm, I told to myself that socialism can be built together, but a cottage just alone.

[Correspondent] Deputies are supposed to put into shape their working relations with the Supreme Council. How will they provide for themselves, will their salary be raised?

[Moroz] Cheap deputies may cost the state a lot. Their current salary amounts to 1.3-1.5 million [currency not specified]. One must take it into account that there is no housing for them in Kiev, they live in hotels. Their families live separately, which means additional expenses. Perhaps, considering all this, deputies' salaries will be raised. But, we will publish everything to avoid speculations. In general, prices must be brought in line with wages, because the artificially suppressed inflation will explode anyway.

[Correspondent] There is a talk that legislation depriving deputies of immunity is already being drafted in parliament.

[Moroz] According to the Law on Deputy Status, a deputy is an immune person. If a deputy violates the law, however, he must be accountable not as a deputy, but as a citizen. All citizens are equal before the law.

[Correspondent] Do you need your own team of people, and according to what principle do you select them?

[Moroz] I need a team, and the principle is the ability to objectively assess processes. Based on my experience as Socialist Party leader, where we have different people, very different, and where I have probably lost more health than in any other work, I know that discrepancies in opinions are not important to me, but causes are.

[Correspondent] Would it not be more expedient for parliament to elect the president?

[Moroz] These elections must be held according to current legislation. In general, I think that it would be better to elect the president not in direct elections, but by, for example, a congress of councils of all levels, which would have a higher level of legitimacy. This congress of councils of all levels, not the parliament, could also adopt amendments to the Constitution. The Constitution would then be protected. In general, one must first adopt an amendment to the Constitution, and then an appropriate law, not to the contrary, as was the case before.

[Correspondent] Do you think that the state should assist the press, which is currently in a very difficult situation?

[Moroz] Attacks on the press began as early as 1986 in the Soviet Union, and due to inertia, it still continues. But, it is the reader who must be protected, so that subscription fees for a publication he needs do not ruin his family budget. Currently, many people do not subscribe to anything, because their wages do not allow for that. I believe that not publications, but the Communication Ministry must be subsidized, and then all publications will have equal conditions before the readers.

[Correspondent] What periodic publications do you like?

[Moroz] I like those I can read without glasses. But speaking seriously, I like all of them, there are different things in different newspapers. There are papers that publish some things I already know. This is not interesting. Currently, I flip through approximately 15 publications, most of all those dealing with politics and authorities, reviews, and commentaries.

[Correspondent] Have you read the latest stories concerning Kravchuk?

[Moroz] About Kravchuk? I know more about him than the authors of those stories. I do not read them. Rada Havrylivna, Shcherbytskyy's [former first secretary of the Ukrainian SSR Communist Party] wife, has presented me with a book about him. I started to read it, and I understood that the author based his position on Shcherbytskyy's. I put the book aside. Perhaps I will read it one day.

[Correspondent] You once said that no political force is putting pressure on you. What if one does, how will you react?

[Moroz] Adequately. I understand what you are trying to say: Apparently, the communists are putting pressure on me. So are other forces. In general, there is no majority in parliament, and I will do everything to maintain this situation. I believe that my goal is to consolidate all forces.

[Correspondent] Do you personally make decisions, or is common opinion a stimulus for you?

[Moroz] There are various approaches. When I see that someone's proposal has more merit, I support it. As a rule, however, the majority of people do not accept progressive decisions, at least, not immediately. So one must convince them. I am accused of having dangerous intentions, for example, in my program. My positions are criticized, but when I ask which ones in particular, my accusers cannot answer, because they have not read my program. They say that I am an enemy of Ukraine, of the state and the people. These allegations are groundless. I stand for the protection of our social achievements: the guaranteed rights to work, education, health care, and cultural development. History must not be distorted, this will do no good. We were celebrating the 50th anniversary of setting up the second front, and we had even forgotten to invite members of the anti-Nazi coalition. Events are being seen in a different light now, even though there are no grounds for that to be the case.

[Correspondent] Are you going to visit the Crimea?

[Moroz] Yes. But before that, I want to do some preliminary work. Besides, the Crimean problem is not as acute as it is being portrayed by certain media. Regarding the Crimea, the main thing is to prevent the use of force. All problems must be resolved in a political manner.

OTV Cancels Program on Election Candidate Kuchma

LD1706162694 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Ten days before the presidential election in Ukraine, the former Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma is heading the list of candidates. According to opinion polls, 31 percent of respondents support him. Some 20 percent of Ukrainian citizens are ready to support the current president, Leonid Kravchuk.

Here is another report indirectly connected with the Ukrainian election. The "Person of the Week" program from the Vid company under Ostankino TV, which was scheduled for tonight, has been taken off the air. It was to have profiled Leonid Kuchma. Our radio station has found out that the broadcast was cancelled by Gennadiy Shipitko, deputy chairman of the Ostankino company responsible for political and information matters.

Kravchuk Backs New Premier's Economic Program

LD1706190894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1442 GMT 17 Jun 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature No. 115 (605): Compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy; Edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] President Leonid Kravchuk has given his backing to the economic program of Ukraine's new Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol and expressed his hope that it will be implemented. Addressing students and teachers of the Odessa Polytechnical Institute, Kravchuk underlined that "the main thing is that nobody hinders him."

According to Kravchuk, Masol meets all demands of the parliament and the Ukrainian society which they put forward with respect to the head of the government. "Masol has re-oriented both in his ideology and in his perception of the Ukrainian economy and the program proclaimed by him in the parliament testifies to this fact," Kravchuk said.

At the parliament's session Masol declared that he is in favor of introduction of several changes into Ukraine's Constitution, which would stipulate that the prime minister is the head of the executive power and carries personal responsibility in for the economic transformations in the country in the face of the people.

"The crisis is not over yet, it is deepening and we are probably on the threshold of a burst," he said. However, he reassured the deputies that "the government would do its utmost to stabilize the situation" but this will begin "not earlier than in a year or in a year and a half."

Masol called his election to the post of the head of the Cabinet "a chance for those who want to work." "The future Cabinet of Ministers, he continued, will consist of like minded professionals who stand on the market platform and are outside any political orientations. Ukraine's national interests will be their major goal," Masol stressed.

He addressed to Ukraine's political forces and people with a request "to abstain from destructive moves."

The parliament has proposed to the premier to present a plan of urgent measures to stabilize the social-economic situation in the country to the parliament for consideration and to make necessary changes in the composition of the cabinet.

After Masol's election the parliament speaker Aleksandr Moroz declared to journalists that substantial changes would take place in the government. In his words, "the Cabinet will be primarily formed on the professional basis but not in accordance with political points of views."

Deputy Yefim Zvyagilsky, former acting premier, gave a positive assessment to Masol's election because "he knows Masol as a professional, an experienced industrialist."

Deputy Petr Simonenko, leader of Ukraine's Communist Party, said that the new head of the government "as well as we, the communists," understands the problems of the Ukrainian people." "We have several differences but they are not principal ones and will not prevent our work," he added.

At the same time leader of the Popular Rukh Vyacheslav Chernovil believes that "the government headed by Masol will go along the way of reforms too slowly." In his opinion, "Masol would not have been elected" if the voting had not been postponed for Thursday morning but was held the previous evening. Chernovil asserts that "an active work to buy over the deputies was being conducted" at night from 15 to 16 June.

Leader of the Ukrainian conservative republican party Stepan Khmara called the premier's elections held before creation of a necessary legislative basis, in particular, before the adoption of the decree on the government as premature.

Kravchuk in Odessa Views CIS Integration, Economy

LD1706180394 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Today, Leonid Kravchuk was on the election trail in Odessa.

[Correspondent Sergey Barabanov] Ten days are left before the Ukrainian presidential elections. Observers note a significant growth in the popularity of the current President Leonid Kravchuk. During his one-day visit to Odessa today, he paid most attention to the economy problem, but also dwelt in some detail on the prospects for the political integration of CIS countries.

[Begin Kravchuk recording] Yes, the time will come, yes, there will be integration, yes, there may be political elements in the integration. But if this is begun today, then it would strain the situation to the limit—both in Russia and outside Russia. I think that certain gentlemen are making haste in putting forward new formulas today. We have to use the potential of the CIS. [end recording]

[Barabanov] As is well-known, Kravchuk's main opponent, Leonid Kuchma, holds a different opinion on that point. What the people of Ukraine think we will find out on 26 June.

Situation Now Normal at Chernobyl 2d Power Unit After Leak

LD1706200794 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1630 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Chernobyl [No dateline as received]—During the night of 16-17 June the trans-shipment of the exhausted nuclear fuel from the basin of the second power unit at the Chernobyl nuclear power station—caused by an increased water leakage spotted by the station's personnel on 7 June—was completed. This was reported to Ukraine's Ministry of the Environment, the State Committee for the Use of Nuclear Power, and the State Committee for Nuclear and Radiation Safety.

"The leakage in the basin had been registered for a long period of time," Viktor Vasylchenko, chief engineer of the "CHAES" production association said during his conversation with a UNIAN correspondent. "Besides, the operation of the second power unit is now being discontinued. The standard systems diverted the leakages to the capacities, specially designed for this purpose. There was no aggravation of the radiation situation on the territory of the Chernobyl nuclear power station and, moreover, there was no contamination of the environment, as certain mass media assumed, and there could be none—the situation is fully under control."

According to Vasylchenko, a periodic servicing of the exhausted nuclear fuel decay basin, envisaged in such cases, got under way on 17 June.

Belarus

Assasination Attempt Against Presidential Candidate

LD1706111294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1025 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Report by BELINFORM correspondent Svetlana Kalinina-TASS]

[Text] Minsk, 17 June—On 16 June the car in which Aleksandr Lukashenko, presidential candidate and well-known campaigner for anticorruption, was shot at after leaving a meeting with the electorate. As a BELINFORM correspondent was told by Likashenko's spokesman, this happened at midnight near the regional center of Liozno in Vitebsk Oblast. Fortunately, the bullet from a passing car of foreign make did not hit Lukashenko. It just went through the car seat.

The shooting was confirmed by the Liozno internal affairs directorate. However, no details of the incident have been given.

Boris Aldanov, Belarusian deputy minister of internal affairs, reported that an investigation has begun and said he was puzzled why the indicent was reported to the region's militia department eight hours after it happened.

KGB Official Says Attempt 'Staged'

LD1806170094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1555 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Report by BELINFORM correspondent for TASS]

[Text] Minsk, 18 Jun—There was no attempt made on the life of People's Deputy Aleksandr Lukashenko, a candidate in the Belarus presidential elections, Petr Snopok, the press secretary of the Belarus KGB, said today speaking on behalf of the Committee for State Security at a news conference.

It was announced at the news conference, in which Deputy Interior Minister Lyutsian Sobolenskiy and Vasiliy Targonskiy, KGB senior investigator for special cases, participated, that the shooting at the car in which Aleksandr Lukashenko was travelling was staged. The information gathered from an investigative experiment and the contradictory stories given by those who were with Lukashenko bear witness to this, it was said at the news conference.

Official Views Defense Conversion, U.S. Aid

WS1706143094 Minsk VO SLAVU RODINY in Russian 15 Jun 94 p 1, 2

[Interview with Belarusian Deputy Defense Minister Aleksandr Tushinskiy by Captain A. Lebedev; place and date not given: "Conversion Needs a Strong Legal Base"]

[Excerpts] [Lebedev] Since the definition of conversion by some media is pretty vague, could you specify the meaning of this word? What are the goals of conversion and since when has it been under way?

[Tushinskiy] Speaking about conversion, it is very important that we distinguish between changing the profile of defense industry enterprises and exploiting their capacity—as a result of trimming the Belarusian Armed Forces potential—for civilian needs. Both are otherwise connected with the Army.

Of course, the goals of these two directions of conversion are different. Conversion in the defense industry enterprises is designed to reduce military production and reorient their capacity and employees, which were left without any work, toward civilian production. On the other hand, conversion of military potential is aimed at consistently engaging the Army's part of scientific and human potential, available as a result of military scale-downs, in the social sphere of industry.

Both directions began in 1991 and are proceeding in several stages. This year marks the beginning of a transitional period. Today, the scientific and technical support of conversion is on the agenda.

[Lebedev] Do those conversion programs have specific managers?

[Tushinskiy] We established conversion departments at the State Industrial Committee and the Ministry of Economy, as well as the Department of International Security and Disarmament at the Foreign Ministry. Their role is limited to providing expert judgment concerning proposed programs. Legally, all enterprises, including those working for the military, are independent; so they bear single-handed responsibility for conversion, as well. Our ministry has the Conversion of Military Facilities Department.

Technically, the "pie" of responsibility for conversion seems to be carved up. However, the industry covered by conversion is very important as it is closely linked with national security. This is why this industry has no place for the provincial mindset. Conversion must be managed by a single center which would coordinate efforts of all links of the conversion chain, including the Defense Ministry and enterprises. For this purpose, we have already sent the Cabinet of Ministers a proposal to set up the State Commission for Conversion and Military Industrial Questions that could become such a center. [passage omitted]

[Lebedev] Conversion of defense industry enterprises reduces military orders. The intention is clear: One is supposed to live by his means and spend money wisely. I am wondering, however, where are the limits beyond which a drop in production is inadmissible? After all, we are putting at risk our national defense potential.

[Tushinskiy] Of course, one should not live beyond his means. However, the fact is that more than half the

industrial capacity of developed countries is dedicated to the defense of their states, compared with only 4 percent in Belarus. Unfortunately, we have long overstepped those limits.

There are many reasons for this. The reduction of military orders was caused by the collapse on the domestic market of Russia's Defense Exports Committee, with which we cooperated. However, we must not let conversion devour something that we will need tomorrow to maintain our combat readiness—our high technology and the expertise of our professionals. The military industry needs orders. To get them, our state should make bolder efforts to enter those foreign markets where our technology is more advanced.

However, some of our politicians do not think about it. The most important thing for them is to play their political card and make a career. Take, for example, Deputy Lukashenko, who said that by trading in arms Belarus discredits itself as a neutral country. He is doing a great disservice to his country and its combat readiness. I do not know about his professional skills, but he does not seem to understand the principles of a market economy and conditions that are vital for our combat readiness. If anyone, a deputy must understand this. [passage omitted]

[Lebedev] As we know, the Belarusian conversion plan is carried out with the help of U.S. investments as part of the U.S. Nunn-Lugar act. Can you say a few words about its goals and advantages?

[Tushinskiy] In the opinion of U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry, the financing of our conversion plans removes the nuclear threat to the United States on the part of Belarus. The Americans have earmarked $20 million for this purpose. However, this aid does not come in the form of money. They directly put their investments into the reequipment of our enterprises and retraining of our personnel. The joint conversion plans primarily cover Minsk defense giants, such as "Integral," the "Computing Equipment" Science and Production Amalgamation, and BelOMO. This promotes the integration of Belarusian enterprises into the world market. So it is to each side's advantage. This year, Belarus will receive a total of $100 million.

[Lebedev] America called upon its allies to join the Belarusian conversion program. Did it receive any response?

[Tushinskiy] Yes, as of today, we have received a response from Japan. Our governments signed an agreement securing $5 million for Belarus to conduct a number of measures preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons, including the installment of ecologically safe storage conditions for radioactive substances.

[Lebedev] Defense enterprises in all countries are closed to unasked eyes, especially foreign. In Belarus, foreign specialists were invited to work at these kind of facilities. Do we not fear for our super-advanced technologies?

[Tushinskiy] Let me disagree with you on only one thing. Western defense enterprises are open, even to foreign eyes. I myself had the chance to visit a couple of them as a member of military delegations. The production process at such sites is exactly the same as at civilian enterprises. The time of "underground plants" is long past.

Presently, enterprises protect only the most advanced technologies, which you cannot see with a trained eye. Generally speaking, so-called intellectual property should be protected by law. Belarus has not yet developed such a law. So, we will guard our national "know-how" with a package of administrative measures.

[Lebedev] The collapse of the Soviet Union introduced substantial corrections into the material and technical support of the Belarusian Armed Forces. But we still need weapons, equipment, ammunition, and production. Do the national conversion programs take this into account?

[Tushinskiy] By all means. For example, the Minsk Automobile Plant is finishing development work on two models of transportation vehicles for our Armed Forces.

[Lebedev] Has the conversion of Belarusian defense enterprises and the military potential of the Belarusian Armed Forces produced any specific results?

[Tushinskiy] I think it would be more correct for me to simply point to a number of enterprises which have successfully changed their profiles. These are first of all our leaders, BelOMO and "Integral." The Homel Radio Equipment Plant has also succeeded in this. What should be noted about this plant is that until recently, it turned out 90 percent of all military production. Now, it manufactures the same amount of civilian products.

As part of the conversion process, the Lida Optics Plant now manufactures glass lenses instead of optical equipment for space.

The U.S.-Belarusian "Belkonvers" joint venture can also be called a fruit of conversion. Based on U.S. technology, it recycles conventional ammunition. Also deserving of attention is the experience of the "Transaviaeksport" company, which employs IL-76 transportation aircraft to train military crews and fill commercial transportation orders serving the Republic's interests. [passage omitted].

Pozniak's Anti-Russian Stance Criticized

PM2006104194 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Jun 94 First Edition p 6

[Article by Yevgeniy Rostikov: "Zenon Pozniak's Anti-Russian Accent"]

[Text] Minsk—The people of Belarus, whose diligence, composure, and tolerance are legendary, are not changing character as they approach their first presidential elections. They are well aware that, out of the six

registered candidates, only incumbent Prime Minister V. Kebich and A. Lukashenko, a former state farm director and former chairman of the Supreme Soviet Anticorruption Commission, have the best chance of success.

Clearly pressuring them, Z. Pozniak, leader of the Belorussian [Belarusian] People's Front [BPF], has been making great advances recently. Head of a rural club, a professional photographer, theater expert, and archaeologist, he entered the political scene in the late eighties on the wave of revelations about Stalin's crimes. He became well known throughout the region for discovering and publicizing the site at Kuropaty near Minsk where NKVD prisoners were gunned down.

Pozniak has irrevocably chosen the path of nationalism. This method has already worked well on the territory of certain republics of the former USSR and has yielded its adherents good dividends. Nationalism is the last phase of communism, the last attempt by an obsolete ideology to rid itself of responsibility for the past. It is always foreigners who are to blame—that is every nationalist's conviction. Nor does it take long to work out who those foreigners are—the Russians.

In Belarus, which has always lived in the closest union with Russia—the two peoples were united by the deepest ties of kinship—this niche naturally remained unfilled. Pozniak filled it and tirelessly set about exposing "imperial Russia" and the "imperial Russian people" who brought to Belarus nothing but an "anticulture, boorishness, dissoluteness, drunkenness, Russian foul language, idleness, hatred, and lies."

Who forms the basis of the support of the BPF and its leader Pozniak? There is the community of dilettantes in various spheres of intellectual activity, first and foremost in science and art. As a rule, these people are from an urban background and their knowledge of life comes from the communal kitchens and from narrow gatherings of like-minded people who are alienated from the profundity of a world culture which seems hostile to them and who assert their national culture at the level of amateur folk events. There is another force on which the BPF leader is undoubtedly counting—the steadily growing stratum of society's dregs, whose only occupation since the very beginning of perestroyka has been to huddle together at rallies and processions and, with raucous cries, voice the "people's" indignation. This is not just the lumpen proletariat, but a special variety of it—the lumpen intelligentsia. From their midst emerged a belligerent and fairly well organized detachment—the Belorusian Association of Servicemen—which donned uniforms and was not averse to a little saber rattling. Small businessmen have been infiltrating this circle, making money from the rampant rise in prices and the customs barriers which operated until recently in the east. The national card is also keenly played by the men of letters, who want to preserve the privileges that they enjoyed in the communist era—the enormous print runs which no one ever bought, the royalties, and, most importantly, the attention lavished on them by the authorities. It is typical that the culture minister in Pozniak's "shadow" government has been publicly stating that the Russian language should be excluded from school syllabuses and could be "temporarily banned" altogether, that the publication and study of Russian writers should be stopped, and that such an "anti-Belarusian" work as Glinka's opera "Ivan Susanin" should be removed from the stage. And, of course, the "foreigners" should be thrown out. To these people a foreigner is anyone who uses Russian. "There is no place for them on Belarusian soil. These people should be sent back to Russia. The Russians and Belarusians are different people." Yet it is Russian that the bulk of the Republic's population speaks!

Just who are these foreigners who have filled our land? For a long time now the Vietnamese have only been seen trading in the market places and the Chinese have not reached Belarus yet. The Americans and other Western "staffers" are only to be seen at the BPF's headquarters and hardly constitute a "foreign work force." It is more likely that they provide work for others. So the logical question to put to the zealous presidential contender is this: If the inscription "nationality" is to be removed from Belarusians' passports, will he not introduce the inscription "native language" so as to immediately determine who is a citizen of Belarus and who is a foreigner? And will this paragraph not be ratified by the law barring certain people from certain professions, which is already tacitly operating in some parts of our country now?

Five years ago no one could even have conceived that many of the newspapers and magazines in Belarus would be filled with anti-Russian articles or that an entire congress of writers would stand to greet with rapturous applause a presidential contender who insulted a fraternal Slav people with these words: "This is a rag-bag of a people without a clearly defined national territory, alternating with Finno-Ugric, Turkic, Mongol and other enclaves, and scattered among colonies in Siberia and Asia. Its dominant consciousness is not national but imperial in essence...." And the presidential contender's special wrath is aroused by a Russian minister's statement that "they intend to defend the rights not just of the ethnic Russians but of the Russian speakers...."

It goes without saying that Pozniak calls the existence of the Russian state itself into question. Indeed, in the presidential contender's mind it no longer exists. "Siberia, Central Asia, the Caucasus, the Far East, Ukraine, Moldova, and Belarus must find their own paths.... The creation of a Russian national state is not ruled out," Pozniak graciously adds.

His hatred of Russia and the Russians knows no bounds. But is it only the Russians?

Pozniak's ideas extend even further: "...The question of the return of the east Belarusian lands will be raised again. Along with the questions of compensation for the Chernobyl disaster, the USSR gold reserve, property

abroad, and so forth. Further efforts will be made to...create a Baltic-Black Sea association of states and, in the long term, of all the states of East and Central Europe—the former 'socialist camp'—apart from Russia."

He is categorically opposed to any unification of the currency system between Russia and Belarus and promises that "a stable Belarusian currency will be introduced. That will stop inflation and the rise in prices. It will fill the stores with high-quality goods."

Pozniak has been intimidating the voters by saying that "Russia will wage an economic war aimed at destroying the republic's economy."

Recently some Moscow newspapers have begun claiming that Z. Pozniak had a drastic change of attitude toward Russia on the eve of the presidential elections. Would that it were so. Here is his statement to a correspondent from SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA (9 June 1994): "Your view is wrong. Russian policy toward Belarus has not changed for centuries. Therefore, my attitude toward that country is unchanged, too. Russia, as a vast Eurasian state with an imperial history and ideology, still exists, no matter how it is dressed up—it was, is, and will remain the enemy of our Belarusian independence and our freedom. We must proceed from this incontrovertible truth and it alone when building our real state relations with the East."

Pozniak has mounted his favorite hobby horse and, spurring it on with nationalist and anti-Russian ideas, is clearly setting his sights at the presidency.

But is he not overestimating his own chances of success?

Refugees Settle in Gomel Oblast Radioactive Villages

PM2006130794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[ITAR-TASS report: "Refugees Occupy 'Radioactive' Villages"]

[Text] Under the onslaught of refugees from Central Asia the Gomel Oblast authorities have been obliged to "open up" villages clogged with radioactive weeds.

Having learned of the opportunity for acquiring housing, refugees are rushing here from the CIS trouble spots. They come knowing that the local inhabitants are subject to enforced or voluntary removal. They are fleeing poverty and dobule-dyed nationalism and, they say, are choosing the lesser of two evils. In all of last year alone, about 2,300 people including over 700 children arrived in radioactive Gomel Oblast. This year the oblast took in a further 300 refugees.

Outbreak of Disease Afflicted Swine Reported

WS1706134994 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1200 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Epidemiologists in Brest are alarmed. In some villages near the center of the oblast, outbreaks of an especially dangerous and infectious disease—swine plague [chuma sviney]—have been recorded. This is an unusual incident, because the disease wipes out pigs of any breed and any age. The (?greatest) danger is posed by the meat of the infected pigs, which are being slaughtered. Their meat may only be safely used after thermal processing and even then, only for preparing stewed sausages and canned meat.

The Brest Rayon Executive Committee has imposed a quarantine in all infected regions. During this quarantine, all exports and imports of pigs, as well as the grazing of cattle at collective farms, are forbidden; transportation movement is also limited. Other regions of the oblast are also alarmed; free, large-scale swine vaccination campaigns are already being implement in those areas.

Moldova

Russian Commander Jeered at Dniester Commemoration Rally

LD1906121994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1120 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondents Valeriy Demidetskiy, Anatoliy Kholodyuk]

[Text] Kishinev [Chisinau], 19 Jun—The second anniversary of the Bendery tragedy was commemorated in the Dniester region today.

Exactly two years ago, this area on the banks of the Dniester river was engulfed in a bloodbath, which left hundreds dead and thousands refugees. The madness was halted on 21 July 1992 when an agreement was signed in Moscow between Moldavia [Moldova] and Russia and a contingent of combined Russian, Moldavian, and Dniester peacekeeping troops was sent into the conflict zone. Thanks to their efforts, a fragile peace has been maintained in the area and talks have begun on finding a peaceful settlement for the crisis. Russia and the CSCE are mediating at these. This was announced at a rally today in Bendery attended by thousands in memory of those killed.

At the rally, a speech by 14th Army Commander General Aleksandr Lebed was greeted by whistles when he criticized the leadership of the Dniester region, accusing it of corruption and reluctance to solve the conflict by peaceful means. Among other things, the general said in his speech that the Tiraspol leaders repaid Russia with base ingratitude when it sent its fighters to Moscow during last year's October events.

Commander Describes Service of Peacekeeping Troops

PM1706090394 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jun 94 p 2

[Interview with Colonel Vladimir Nikishin, commander of the Regiment of Russian Peacemaking Forces in the Dniester Region, by Senior Lieutenant Artur Gulko; place and date not given, under the "Life of the Troops" rubric: "Peacekeeping Forces in the Dniester Region: Too Soon To Return Home Yet"]

[Text] The regiment of Russian peacemaking forces commanded by Colonel Vladimir Nikishin recently fulfilled its peacemaking mission in the Dniester Region. This is the second time. The regiment's officers and men separated the opposing sides in summer 1992.

Our nonstaff correspondent's conversation with the regiment commander focused on the everyday lives of the peacemaking troops from the Volga Military District.

[Gulko] Vladimir Fedorovich, what is the situation like today in the region where your regiment was operating?

[Nikishin] Just like last year, the regiment fulfilled its duties in the heightened security zone on both banks of the Dniester River. It served at five posts in accordance with the documents of the joint control commission. On the right bank it served together with peacemakers from Moldavia [Moldova] and at seven posts on the left bank together with people from the Dniester Region. There are also posts in Dubossary, Bendery, and at the Kitskany bridgehead...

Our main mission was to perform the functions of military observers, to monitor the movement of combat hardware and troops, and to inspect transport which might possibly be carrying weapons, ammunition, explosives, or drugs. Thanks to strict monitoring the shipment of this entire range of goods through the Dniester Region has virtually ceased. But this does not mean that the peacemakers are no longer needed here. Everything is peaceful in Moldavia today but the Russian soldiers are still the guarantors of stability in the region.

The attitude toward our officers and men on the part of local inhabitants on both sides of the Dniester is the very best. And that is true despite the reports filtering into the Moldavian mass media about the urgent need for the withdrawal of the peacemaking forces from the region.

[Gulko] The specific conditions of your service have surely had an impact on the combat training process. What are the characteristic features of that training in the Dniester Region?

[Nikishin] Exercises were planned and organized according to the program for the training of Russia's peacemaking units. They were held on a daily basis, according to a schedule, and involved all personnel apart from those on actual service. Fire practice took place at the 14th guard's army range, the remaining subjects were studied at our own base at Bendery in an old fortress reminiscent of the Russian Army in Aleksandr Vasilyevich Suvorov's time.

Admittedly, the shortage of officers and NCO's at platoon-company level took its toll: We had 10 officer vacancies and 17 NCO vacancies. People were in no hurry to come here, for understandable reasons... Including social reasons.

[Gulko] But it has been stated numerous times at various levels that the social and everyday problems facing men serving in the "hot spots" have all but been resolved. There are, after all, laws which provide various privileges...

[Nikishin] Those privileges have not been prescribed for us. The peacemaking forces are only covered by the defense minister's order on privileges—unlike the 14th Army, which enjoys privileges laid down by edict of the Russian Federation President for servicemen serving in the "hot spots." Why is that? Formally speaking we are serving in the Volga Military District. However, we were stationed in the Dniester Region not through choice, but from the state's need, a fact which is not taken into account.

Of course, we made our own efforts to obtain privileges for officers and NCO's. For example, we are doing a lot to that end at the winter quarters in Totskoye. Officers, NCO's, and men were sent on regular furloughs. In short, we tried to keep people's spirits up. But all that, of course, is not enough. Now we have been relieved by the regiment under the command of Colonel Aleksandr Grigoryev and I hope that our wishes will be taken into account when it comes to providing backup for its service.

Kazakhstan

Trade Minister Relieved of Duties

LD1706161394 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] By edict of the President of Kazakhstan, Zholtikov Oktyabr Ivanovich is relieved of his post as minister of trade in connection with the reorganization of the ministry.

Minister of Social Protection Resigns

LD1706161594 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] By edict of the President of Kazakhstan, Kadyrova Zaure Zhusupovna is relieved of her post as minister of social protection of the population in connection with her resignation.

Social Security Minister Resigns

LD1706204594 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] The Russian Information Agency reports that Zaure Kadyrova, Kazakhstan's minister for the social protection of the population, has handed in her resignation. She said the reason for this step was that the government did not involve her in tackling many of the painful and urgent problems, and that proposals submitted by her ministry remained unheeded.

Nazarbayev Appoints New Officials

LD1706165394 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1400 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] In conformity with a decree issued by President Nazarbayev, Yuriy Ivanovich Lavrinenko is appointed head of the East Kazakhstan Oblast administration.

Galymzhan Badylzhan-uly Zhakianov is appointed head of the Semipalatinsk Oblast administration.

Albert Gergardovich Salomatin is appointed head of Zhezkazgan Oblast administration. The latter is relieved of his post as the Kazakh minister of industry.

Ravil Tazhkora-uly Shardabayev is appointed minister of oil and gas of Kazakhstan.

Vyacheslav Vasilievich Kostyuchenko is appointed minister of trade and industry of Kazakhstan.

Baykarim William-uly Totenov is appointed minister of social insurance minister of Kazakhstan.

Continues Government Reshuffle

LD1806164294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1523 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] On Friday [17 June], President Nursultan Nazarbayev signed decrees to make new government appointments.

He appointed the former director of the joint venture Tengiz Chevroil, Ravil Shardabayev, as Oil and Gas Minister, and the former First Deputy Minister for External Economic Relations, Vyacheslav Kostyuchenko, as Industry and Trade Minister.

The president issued a decree to abolish the Ministry of Energy and Fuel Resources and dismiss its head, Kadyr Baikenov, whose former deputy, Vladimir Karmakov, was appointed to lead the newly-established Energy and Coal Ministry.

The former Transport Minister, Nigmatzhan Isingarin, is now Transport and Communications Minister. Communications Minister Igor Ulianov and Trade Minister Oktiabr Zheltikov lost their jobs because their ministries were abolished.

Besides, the President of Kazakhstan satisfied the request for resignation filed by the Social Security Minister, Zaure Kadyrova, and gave her job to her First Deputy, Baykarim Tutenov.

INTERFAX learned from reliable sources that Nursultan Nazarbayev will make more changes in his government in the near future.

Nazarbayev Chairs Session of Security Council

LD1706170994 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1400 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] A regular Security Council session, chaired by President Nazarbayev, was held yesterday. At issue were questions related to the state of equipment of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kazakhstan with technology, armaments, material, and technical resources. The concept of formation and implementation of long-term defense programs and development of the defense complex of the Republic of Kazakhstan were also examined. General Sagadat Nurmagambetov, the defense minister, and Economy Minister Mars Urkumbayev presented reports. An exchange of opinions was held, summed up by Nursultan Nazarbayev: We must precisely decide what an army needs—how many men we need—he said. We should urgently tackle all questions connected with equipping the Armed Forces, we should, to a maximum degree, reduce import of military products from outside, and to the best of our possibilities manufacture such products in Kazakhstan. The head of state set an objective—in one week's time—to set up a commission on the military industry. Its chairman will be directly responsible for the situation in this important sphere, which should provide reliable defense capability for our sovereign state.

By their decision, the Security Council approved of the concept of formation and implementation of long-term defense programs and development of the defense complex. The council also endorsed several changes in its membership. In particular, Bulat Baekenov was appointed secretary of the council.

Speaker Abish Kekilbayev, Akizhan Kazhegeldin, first deputy prime minister, Deputy Prime ministers Galym Abilsiitov and Asygat Zhabagin, and heads of a number of ministries and departments, as well as responsible officials from the presidential administration and that of the Cabinet of Ministers participated in the session.

Nazarbayev Issues Edict on Publication of Legal Acts

LD1706182594 Almaty KAZTAG in Russian 1430 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] An edict by the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the regulations connected to publishing and implementing the president's legal acts. With the view to upgrade the procedure for publishing and making valid legal acts by the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan, I decree:

1. Acts by the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan should be published in the brochure "The collection of acts by the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the republican government" published in the issue right after its endorsement and also in the newspapers EGEMENDY KAZAKHSTAN, KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA, KHALYK KENESI, and VESTNIK of KAZAKHSTAN.

2. The publication of presidential acts by the above organs is regarded official. Presidential acts could also be published by other mass media sources, TV and Radio, send by fax, telegraph, and distributed among the relevant state and other organizations.

3. Presidential acts, which contain secret information, should not be published. Their originals are stamped "top secret" and organizations and people, who are admitted to the secret, should be familiarized with it in accordance with the set regulation. Such acts by the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan could be published in printed sources in accordance with the set regulation.

4. A standard legal act by the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan comes into force on the territory of Kazakhstan 10 days after its official publication.

5. A nonstandard legal act by the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan comes into force since the day of its publication.

6. The dates, which are specified by provisions N4 and N5 of the above edict, are not applied to cases when the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan specifies a different date in a law.

The Cabinet of Ministers should bring in compliance with the above edict the standard acts, which regulate the procedure for the publication of presidential acts.

The above edict comes into force since the day of its publication.

[Signed] President Nazarbayev, Almaty, 10 June 1994.

Nazarbayev Sends Message to Cooperatives Union

LD1806130094 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0100 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Excerpts] A meeting of the union of Kazakh consumer cooperative societies was held in Almaty on 17 June. [passage omitted] The union is the largest in the Central Asian system, which ensures reliable provision to the rural population of food, industrial goods, and various services. It is a powerful organization that purchases agricultural raw materials and provides quality prosessing of it in a most beneficial way. It is a full-fledged member of the International Cooperative Alliance. Its Kazkoopvneshtorg branch maintains direct trade contacts with companies of 35 foreign countries.

Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Kulagin read out a greeting from President Nazarbayev. The union of consumer societies, it says, have come a long way; its history has been inseparable from that of our state. At each stage of the country's development, cooperatives made a significant contribution in the improvement of the rural population's living standard and strengthening of ties between the city and the village.

The president suggested that the members of the Republic's cooperatives, using their long experience of organization of market relations, should quickly restructure their work in conformity with the demands of the times.

Almaty Rally Protests Against PRC Nuclear Test

LD1706170294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1616 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Report by KAZTAG correspondent Yesenkul Bekbulatova for TASS]

[Text] Almaty 17 June TASS—A rally of the Kazakh Attan popular movement protested today in front of the Chinese Embassy in Almaty against the Chinese nuclear test held at the Lob Nor nuclear testing grounds 300 kilometers away from the Kazakh-Chinese borders.

The rally supported a statement of the Kazakh Foreign Ministry, which lamented over another nuclear test in Lob Nor fraught with grave consequences for the regional ecology. Kazakh residents, which have lived through the 40 years work of the Semipalatinsk testing grounds, are especially concerned over the fate of future generations, as well as the neighbouring areas of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan which also have borders with China.

"Our demand to stop tests in Lob Nor is not an interference in Chinese internal affairs," leader of the Attan Anti-Nuclear Movement Amantai Asylbekov told the rally. "It is concern over the health of millions of citizens of many regional states. It is alarming that the test was held by China while other nuclear powers observe the nuclear test moratorium."

The peace march that began today near the Chinese Embassy will finish on 29 August in New York City near the United Nations headquarters. The Attan members together with U.S. anti-nuclear activists want to attract the public attention and pull efforts to achieve closure of all the nuclear testing grounds throughout the world.

Rally Supports Ministry Statement

LD1806103494 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 0400 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] A massive meeting organized by the Attan public movement was held yesterday in Almaty in front of the Chinese Embassy to Kazakhstan. The participants of the meeting were protesting against nuclear tests held at the Lop Nur testing site, which is located only 300 km away from the Kazakh border. Multiethnic participants of the meeting expressed support for a statement released by the Kazakh Foreign Ministry in connection with the explosion at Lop Nur.

Kazakhstanis are especially concerned about these tests because they have suffered for over 40 years from the tests at the Semipalatinsk site and are worried about the fate of their future generations. The Kazakh people, who have contributed so much to the closure of the Semipalatinsk site, are protesting together with the peoples of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, who also border on China. There are no borders to protect us against nuclear radiation and its consequences. The meeting and rally, which began yesterday in front of the Chinese Embassy, will finish on 29 August in New York in front of the UN headquarters.

Premier Tereshchenko Visits Zhezkazgan Oblast

LD1706171094 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] A sitting of the heads of the city and rayon administration of Zhezkazgan Oblast was held today. Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko who arrived on a visit, introduced Albert Salomatin, the new head of the oblast administration. On his visit to the city, the head of government visited a business center, which is under construction here, the production amalgamation Zhezkazgantsvetmet and a complex of medical establishments built by the Samsung company of South Korea. On the same day Tereshchenko returned to Almaty.

Cabinet of Ministers Endorses Land Transaction Procedures

LD1806083694 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] In order for the presidential edict on further improvement of land relations to be carried out, the Cabinet of Ministers endorsed the procedures of purchase and sale by legal entities and citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan of the right to the lifelong inheritance and possession, use, or rent of land plots. The state committee of land relations and land use is charged with the task of clarifying, if and when necessary, the basic rates of guidance prices for these rights on the basis of the state statistical data on the general inflation rate. The full text of the document will be published in the press.

Cooperation With UNESCO To Be Expanded

LD1806084294 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0800 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] A regular session of the central commission of Kazakhstan for UNESCO affairs, chaired by Kuanysh Sultanov, was held yesterday. At the meeting, issues connected with the further broadening of Kazakhstan's cooperation with this prestigious international organization were discussed. Specific events were outlined in order to prepare for celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Abay Kunanbayev.

Kyrgyzstan

Akayev on Relations With Parliament

LD1706125894 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Kyrgyz 2300 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] President Askar Akayev met a large group of senior citizens, veterans of war and labor from Bishkek and all oblasts of the country. A long, open, and interested conversation about the plight of the Republic, responsibility of the authorities, and the nation's unity took place. Without these things there is no way out of the crisis and no well-being for the people.

The president told the veterans about the situation in the Republic, about the authorities' efforts to lift the country out of the economic crisis and stabilize the situation. Akayev paid special attention to such a worrying tendency as a growing rift between the representative and Executive Branches of power, between the president and the Zhogorku Kenesh.

Dangerous political gambling, intrigues, blackmail, and hysterical witch-hunting by certain media will not result in anything good. They threaten to divide society and bring about a situation similar to those taking place in Tajikistan or Russia.

The president asked the veterans to use all their wisdom and lifelong experience to persuade both deputies and

public opinion that a course towards confrontation, elucidation of relations, and discredit is fruitless and dangerous. I have quite a few compromising materials on some of the deputies, the president said, and I could have used them at the sessions of the Zhogorku Kenesh. But I would not like to resort to this. I would not like to discredit the deputies' corps. Let law and order enforcement bodies deal with investigations of such materials. Our parliament has turned into an investigation commission.

The veterans supported the president. They demanded he make state power stricter. The heads of local administrations should be controlled tougher. The veterans promised [words indistinct].

Rustenbekov, state secretary and head of the presidential apparatus, and Sapubek Begaliev, president of the assembly of Kyrgyzstani peoples, attended the meeting.

New Administrative Territory Set Up in Naryn Oblast

LD1806164394 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Kyrgyz 2300 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] A first ever kurultay [meeting] was held by the working aksakals [veterans] of the town of Naryn and Naryn Rayon and was held in the oblast center. The problem of setting up a new administrative territory was discussed. This new territory is expected to comprise the town of Naryn and the former Tian-Shan Rayon. It was noted that decisive measures are being taken in order to implement the presidential edicts on extraordinary measures to strengthen the state financial discipline, and on measures to deepen the land and agrarian reform in Kyrgyzstan. Every peasant association has set up rural committees, the activity of which is targeted at improvement of the economic and social situation of people.

The participants adopted an appeal of the kurultay to Prime Minister Dzhumagulov that says that with the transition to a market economy, a good prerequisite has emerged that will strengthen the unity and solidarity of the Kyrgyz people in the spirit of the best traditions of our ancestors. The people understand the great economic and political significance of merging the town and rayon, the appeal says. By merging, artificial barriers are removed between the city and village. It is easier to process agricultural raw materials directly, without any red tape; and to fully use industrial enterprises reserves and labor resources of the agrarian sector. The participants in the kurultay assured the head of the government that all grounds exist for improving the economic and social situation in Naryn.

Bank for Reconstruction, Development Founded

LD2006091294 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Kyrgyz 2300 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Text] The Bank for Reconstruction and Development has been set up under the Government of Kyrgyzstan. Its tasks are to support economic reforms and monitor the use of resources. Credits will be granted by it only for projects of state value. It will support small and medium scale businesses in the priority spheres of economy and take into consideration regional characteristics. Its authorized capital is 10 million soms.

Tajikistan

Opposition Groups Reportedly Assembling on Afghan Border

LD1706175194 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 1200 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] The information department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic told a KHOVAR correspondent that armed groups of the Islamic Rebirth Party of Tajikistan have assembled in the Badakhshan Province of Afghanistan close to the residential areas of Darvoz and Shugnan rayons and the Khorog city of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast of Tajikistan.

Their aim is to cross over to the territory of Tajikistan and wage armed struggles in the future against the government forces and to reach the Khoburabot Pass. Mercenaries from other countries are also included in the armed groups.

Leadership of the Afghan province of Badakhshan, including its military commander Abdol Khalid (Basir), are not doing anything to stop the movement and operation of the armed groups on the Tajikistan-Afghanistan border.

Explaining the situation, the headquarters of the group of Russian border guards in Tajikistan said that decisive measures will be taken against the armed groups attempting to violate and cross the border.

Ready for Cease-Fire

LD1806210794 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] The Tajik opposition is ready to sign an agreement on a cease-fire along the Tajik-Afghan border for the period of the inter-Tajik talks, Otakhon Latifi, the head of the Tajik opposition delegation at the inter-Tajik talks in Tehran, told INTERFAX on Saturday [18 June]. The opposition intends to present a draft of such an agreement to the delegation representing official Dushanbe at the second round of inter-Tajik talks that have opened in Tehran. It plans to look for ways of settling the political situation in Tajikistan peacefully, to examine the problem of the return home of all Tajik refugees, and the issue of the future constitutional system. The talks are being held under UN auspices.

Labor Minister, Opposition Member on Peace Talks

LD1906182694 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Interview with Tajik Labor Minister Shukurjon Zuhurov and opposition official Ata Khan Latifi by unidentified correspondent; including passage by Ramero Perez Ballon, UN special envoy to the Tajik peace talks, in English followed by further announcer-read remarks by Balloon; in Tehran, date not given—recorded]

[Text] Direct talks between Tajik Government representatives and opposition groups continued in Tehran today. Our reporter has separately interviewed Tajik representatives as well as opposition members and UN representative.

[Correspondent] How hopeful are you about the outcome of these talks?

[Zuhurov] I think the talks are not going to be very easy; however, I hope that while in Tehran we will witness a round of fruitful talks between the Tajiks that will lead to a resolution.

[Correspondent] What role can Iran play?

[Zuhurov] I think Iran can play a major role. Today, during the opening session of the talks, I had the feeling that all the Iranian people, the Iranian Government, and the Iranian Foreign Ministry—as represented by Foreign Minister Velayati—are all extremely eager and interested in restoring peace and tranquility in Tajikistan as soon as possible.

[Correspondent] God willing. Thank you very much. Let us ask a question to Ata Khan Latifi. Mr. Latifi, as the representative of the Tajik opposition groups, how hopeful are you about these talks and what issues are you going to raise during these round of the talks?

[Latifi] We shall do our best during these talks to reach a conclusion. We took the first step in Moscow. We signed several agreements and now we are obliged to take some serious steps during these talks. I wish to emphasize that the cease-fire should be discussed during the talks. This is one of our conditions which we raised in Moscow. We have expanded this condition and we will raise it again tomorrow.

[Correspondent] Elections are going to be held in Tajikistan soon. What is the opinion of the opposition groups on these elections?

[Latifi] You think about it, how can they hold elections at a time when a large number of Tajik people are outside their country? They have fled the country to live as refugees in dozens of countries. They are destitute and helpless. Their children have been deprived of schools for the second consecutive year. There are a number of refugees in Tajikistan itself who keep moving from one city to the next and from one village to another. How can elections be organized under such circumstances?

[Correspondent] As a representative of the opposition, what are your expectations from the Tajik Government during these talks?

[Latifi] I believe at the present we should all feel sorry for the people. If we all act with the intention of serving the future of our republic, we shall reach a conclusion.

[Ballon] My plan is to succeed, but it is up to the Tajik sides to decide a way.

[Announcer] UN envoy at the Tajik peace talks, Mr. Ballon, stressed that the warring factions in Tajikistan have now realized that the only way of resolving the Tajik crisis is through talks. He added: Despite the existing difficulties in the talks, I am optimistic about the outcome of these talks in Tehran. He praised the role played by the Islamic Republic of Iran, Russia, and Tajikistan's other neighbors in the peace talks.

Report on Situation on Afghan Border

LD2006104694 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0325 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Text] We continue to update you with the situation on the Tajikistan border. This is what our correspondent Valentin Nikulin has told us:

[Nikulin] The situation on the Tajik-Afghan border remains complicated. Almost daily the Russian border guards have to repel provocations from armed detachments of the Tajik opposition which is based in the northern provinces of Afghanistan. The leaders of the opposition, aware of the large military potential of the border guards, as well as of the 15,000-strong contingent of peace-keeping forces that have arrived to support them, have resorted to the very wily tactics of silent infiltration across the border by small, well-armed, and trained groups instead of a massive spring-summer offensive. Their aim is to set up bases and arms depots on the territory of Tajikistan, as well as to carry out acts of sabotage.

The movements of the bands and formations are under the close observation of the Tajik special services. As a result of a recent three-days operation carried out jointly with the Russian border guards, about 30 transgressors were destroyed, a Pakistani military advisor among them. A depot containing 200 nonguided missiles and antiaircraft guns was destroyed, as well as a lot of other arms.

A dozen attempts to violate the almost 1,200km-long border have been foiled. In particular, in one of the sectors of the border in the Pamir mountains, border guards' fire stopped 25 armed transgressors from illegally crossing the border. By the way, 10 of them were of Arab origin, according to military intelligence. This fact proves once more that the claim of the Tajik opposition

leaders that no foreign mercenaries are taking part in their fight against the present regime in Tajikistan is false.

And one more scandalous fact from life on the border which was related to us at a press conference by Lieutenant-General Anatoliy Chechulin, commander of a group of Russian Federation border troops. On 8 June an explosive device was discovered and deactivated here by a Russian border guards detachment. It had been placed by unknown persons on a barge that transported refugees returning home from Afghanistan. The resolute and skillful actions of the border guards averted the death of 242 persons, mainly women and children. A day later, at 0610 on 9 June, the 11th outpost of the Moscow border guards detachment suffered concentrated shelling from the territory of Afghanistan. Twenty-six missiles were fired directly at it over a short period of time. As a result of this action one serviceman of the Tajikistan Defense Ministry was killed, and another was wounded. Both of them were serving in a subunit of the republican Defense Ministry, which was sent to reinforce border security.

Three Militiamen Killed, 12 Wounded in Ambush

LD2006061694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0530 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, 20 June—Three members of the militia staff were killed and 12 wounded during the day on Sunday [19 June] as a result of a clash that occurred in the mountainous Fayzabad rayon of Tajikistan. Besides this, the fate is still not known of two militia men whose bodies were not discovered at the scene of the exchange of fire.

The staff of the internal affairs directorate of the neighboring (Kofarnihan) rayon were the victims of an attack by one of the bandit formations. According to information from Tajikistan's Ministry of Internal Affairs the group of militia staff were ambushed while on an official assignment. A criminal case has been instituted with regard to the crime.

Russian Guards Foil Border Incursion

LD2006083394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0808 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe 20 June TASS—Russia border guards foiled an attempt at an armed penetration of the territory of Tajikistan from Afghanistan by a small group of Tajik opposition in Shuroabad border sector guarded by the Moskovskiy Border Detachment on the night from Sunday to Monday.

The border gourds opened artillery fire on the crossing area, forcing the intruders to withdraw to the contiguous bank. Foe losses are unknown. There were no losses among Russian servicemen, military sources in Dushanbe told ITAR-TASS.

In all, over the past 48 hours, border guards thwarted six border crossing attempts. The situation remained relatively calm in the other sectors of the Tajik-Afghan border.

Second Round of Peace Talks Opens in Tehran

LD2006102694 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0800 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Excerpts] The second round of inter-Tajik talks opened in the Iranian capital 18 June. The delegation representing the Dushanbe Government is headed by Shukurjon Zuhurov, minister of labor and employment, and the opposition is led by Otakhon Latifi, Khudaiberdi Khaliknazarov, and others.

The opening ceremony of the second round of talks was held in the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' political research center and it was attended by Ramiro Piriz Ballon [the UN secretary-general's envoy to Tajikistan] and observers from Russia, Iran, Pakistan, (?Afghanistan), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. From Russia, roving Ambassador Aleksandr Oblov and Sergey Tretyakov, Russian ambassador in Iran, are taking part in the talks.

Speeches by Piriz Ballon, Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and the heads of the Tajik delegations indicate that the main objective of the second round of the talks is to sign a cease-fire agreement.

Having positively assessed the results of the first round of talks in Moscow, the UN secretary-general's envoy said that the agenda for [the second round of] talks was agreed during talks [in Moscow] and a joint commission was formed on the issue of refugees. He highly assessed the efforts of Russia and observers from other countries and at the same time expressed concern at the upsurge of hostilities including an increase in terrorist attacks against Russian military personnel in Tajikistan.

Piriz Ballon said that despite all these, serious disagreements exist between the representative of the Tajik Government and the opposition. He called on both sides to strive for an atmosphere of mutual understanding during the talks, to take measures to cease military and other hostile operations, and to establish ways of observing future agreements.

Piris Ballon assured participants in the talks that the United Nations and its secretary general are ready to provide aid to assist the normalization of the situation by sending experts and providing material aid for the repatriation of refugees.

Pointing out the great importance of an end to conflict in Tajikistan, he said that the establishment of peace in the country is the only way to stability and prosperity in the Central Asian region.

Iran's foreign affairs minister said at the opening ceremony of the talks and at the subsequent news conference, that the Tajikistan problem cannot be resolved by war. He rejected claims that Tehran is exporting its Islamic revolution to Tajikistan.

Shukurjon Zuhurov and Otakhon Latifi cautiously welcomed the talks. However, some of their views show that serious disagreements exist [between them] and that it will be difficult to overcome them. [passage omitted]

The talks are expected to continue for 10 days. Working and general meetings will also be held, attended by foreign observers. It is also been reported that the third round of talks will be held in Islamabad in the middle of July.

Garm Region Military Operation Ends

LD1806155194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] The first active phase of the operation designed to clear the gorges of Garm Region from armed opposition groups was concluded on Friday [17 June].

As INTERFAX learned from Tajikistan's Deputy Defence Minister, Major-General Aleksandr Chubarov, the operation involved army units and troops from the Tajik Security and Interior Ministries, who were supported by helicopters and armored vehicles.

Garm Region lies high in the mountains. Because of its complicated terrain it can be dominated by small mobile groups of armed men. That is why it is viewed as a bulwark of the opposition.

As Chubarov said, during the operation 48 men were detained in the area of military actions, and handed over to the Security Ministry. Some of them were soon set free, since it was proved that they had no connection with the opposition. About 30 units of firearms, several grenade throwers, a British-made transmitter, and a large quantity of ammunition were discovered in secret caches hidden in the mountains. A center for training opposition militants was destroyed in a locality lying north of the village of Hait.

Participants in the operation are categorically forbidden to use "any types of weapons against population centers," and therefore there were no civilian casualties, Chubarov stressed.

He does not share the belief that the present confrontation in Tajikistan may grow into a long guerrilla warfare.

"If we manage to ensure reliable protection for our borders, find effective solutions to political issues, including problems connected with interaction between the various areas of Tajikistan, and conclude the first stage of building our armed forces this year, we'll be able to accomplish, together with Security and Interior Ministries, the task of preventing the opposition from acting on Tajikistan's border and within the country," the general said.

Turkmenistan

President Niyazov Begins Visit to Turkey

LD2006082394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0728 GMT 20 Jun 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksey Yerovchenkov]

[Text] Nicosia 20 June TASS—"Turkmenistan is the motherland of our ancestors, and the Turkish Republic is the second home for our esteemed guests from Turkmenistan. We are happy to see the relationship between the two fraternal states developed successfully over the past two and a half years," Turkey's President Suleyman Demirel said in welcoming President Saparmurad Niyazov of Turkmenistan for an official visit to Turkey at Ankara international airport on Sunday.

President Demirel later said in the presidential palace in Ankara that relations between the two countries were developing on the basis of equality, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, mutual benefit and respect.

Cooperation between Turkey and Turkmenistan make an important contribution to ensuring peace and stability, as well as prosperity of all nations of the region, he said.

Of course, we want to take our relations to a higher level and are displaying a political will necessary to do so. We will discuss with Mr. Niyazov a variety of problems, including the key issues of international character, the Turkish president said.

President Demirel expressed the hope that Turkmenistan will make ample use of Turkey's experience and potential to overcome specific difficulties which arose in the process of its development and will soon become a highly developed state. Turkey for its part, will render all possible assistance and support to the fraternal people.

Deputy Premier Comments

LD1906112294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1101 GMT 19 Jun 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Glazovskaya]

[Text] Ashkhabad 19 June TASS—Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov leaves for Turkey today for an official visit. Summit talks there will take two days, after which he will have several days of rest in that country at the invitation of Turkish President Suleyman Demirel.

A memorandum on cooperation is expected to be signed during the visit. It will further develop the already close cooperation ties between the two neighbouring countries, which believe that they are related to each other by the spirit, language, and ethnic origin.

This is going to be Niyazov's fourth visit to an Asian country over the recent period of time. The first three countries he visited were Iran, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

A new political-geographic zone is being formed in that region following the disintegration of the Soviet Union, Turkmen Deputy Prime Minister Boris Shikhmuradov, who shares Niyazov's ideas, told ITAR-TASS. It includes the Indian peninsula, part of the Near and Middle East, Central Asia, the Caspian and Black Sea basins. According to Shikhmuradov, Turkmenistan's situation changed in the new geographic zone. It moved from the outskirts of Central Asia to the centre of the new political-geographic structure, which focused on it the interest of both Western and Asian countries.

Taking into account the fact that the natural and manpower resources of the region, as well as its scientific and technological potential, are truly enormous, the Turkmen leadership and its president find it expedient to make use of them on the basis of the mechanism of bilateral and multilateral systems, without inventing or creating new ones. A series of Niyazov's recent visits is in line with that task, Shikhmuradov said.

Uzbekistan

Foreign Minister Rejects Eurasian Union Proposal

LD1706105394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1027 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Uzbekistan's Foreign Minister Saydmukhtar Saydkasymov said that the Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev's proposal of a Eurasian Union is an attempt to restore the former USSR. He was speaking in Tashkent on Friday [17 June] at a meeting with the heads of the diplomatic corps accredited in the Republic.

Saydkasymov said the CIS has not exhausted its opportunities yet and a Eurasian Union would mean a return to the past. "Uzbekistan links its future with the sovereignty obtained by the Republic," he said.

Kazakhstan's Ambassador to Uzbekistan Nazhameden Iskaliyev told INTERFAX that "every state has the right to express its opinion on issues in which it has an interest." Iskaliyev believes that the idea of an Eurasian Union would be discussed at the September summit of the heads of CIS states.

"Of course, certain corrections will be introduced into the document, nevertheless it should be treated with great attention," Iskalilyev said.

Armenia

CSCE's Eliasson Arrives in Yerevan

NC1706203794 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1900 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] As already reported, the CSCE Minsk Group delegation dealing with the Nagorno-Karabakh problem arrived in Stepanakert on 16 June headed by Jan Eliasson.

The Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] Press and Information Department reported that the CSCE delegation held a meeting on the same day with Karen Baburyan, acting chairman of the NKR Supreme Council; Robert Kocharyan, chairman of the State Defense Committee; and Foreign Minister Arkadiy Gukasyan.

Jan Eliasson told reporters that regrettably the conflicting sides have different views regarding the future steps aimed at resolving the conflict. He said that the CSCE Minsk Group is thinking of continuing its efforts in cooperation with the Russian Federation to bring the positions of the conflicting sides nearer.

The CSCE delegation visited the front lines and the prisoners of war held in Stepanakert this morning. The talks continued between the Minsk Group delegation and NKR leadership in the first part of the day.

After the conclusion of the talks, Jan Eliasson and members of the delegation left Stepanakert for Yerevan in the afternoon.

Jan Eliasson and his delegation were received by President Levon Ter-Petrosyan late tonight. Details of the meeting will be aired during our newscasts tomorrow.

Meets With Ter-Petrosyan

LD1706220394 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1954 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Video report by correspondent Korium Khumaryan from Yerevan; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Khumaryan] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan received the chairman of the CSCE Minsk group in Yerevan late this evening. During the conversation the problems of a peace settlement of the Karabakh conflict were discussed. The Armenian position on the matter is unequivocal: There is no alternative to peace in the region. But a forced confrontation has reached such a level that guarantee of peace cannot be achieved without bringing in disengaging forces and international observers in the conflict zone.

There is practically no contradiction between the Russian and CSCE peacemaking programs. It is now up to Azerbaijan's good will.

'Immaterial' if Armenia Supplied Arms to Karabakh

LD1706181394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1442 GMT 17 Jun 94

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature No. 115 (605) by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy and edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with Interfax, the military adviser to President Ter-Petrosyan and chief inspector of the Armenian armed forces Gurgen Dalibaltayan said that in terms of both quantity and quality the Armenian army met the technical requirements of the Transcaucasian region. But, he said, the armsrace launched by certain countries of that region compelled Armenia to work constantly on the technical potential of its army.

Under the treaty on conventional weapons, Armenia could have no more than 220 tanks, 220 other armored vehicles, including 135 MICV's, 100 combat planes and 50 combat helicopters. It can have no more than 60,000 troops.

According to Dalibaltayan, the armed forces were brought up almost to their full strength and sufficiently well equipped with weapons and hardware. They were still wanting officers but, Dalibaltayan said, an all-arms army college was to open in Armenia this year.

Several think tanks related to the national Defense Ministry were working on Armenia's military doctrine. The staff under President Ter-Petrosyan would come out with a draft doctrine of their own, Dalibaltayan said.

Whether or not Armenia supplied Nagorno-Karabakh with weapons and army hardware, was absolutely immaterial, he said, because in the course of combat operations the Karabakh defense forces had captured enormous stocks of weapons and hardware, materiel and ammunition.

A sufficient number of Armenian volunteers went to defend the sovereignty of Karabakh, Dalibaitayan said.

Parliament Passes State Enterprise Privatization Order

NC1806201194 Yerevan SNARK in English 1646 GMT 18 Jun 94

[From the "Business SNARK" file]

[Text] Yerevan [dateline as received]—The Presidium of Armenian Supreme Council has determined by its resolution "the order of partial unpaid privatization of the state enterprise property, and their transformation into joint-stock companies". According to this document, the property ownership certificate shall be granted to the personnel who served for more than one year at a particular enterprise. The share of each stock-holder is

determined in the certificate and depends on the average salary, total length of service, and some other factors.

Privatization order has been developed by the Armenian Government under the law "On Privatization of State Enterprises and Unfinished Buildings", according to which 20 percent of fixed assets of privatized enterprise may be freely passed to its staff.

At the same time, a long list of more than 300 enterprises was approved by the Presidium, that are not subject to unpaid privatization. The list includes, in particular, those Armenian state enterprises which function on the territory of other CIS countries.

'Zone of Trust' Proposed for Border Area

944K1493A Yerevan RESPUBLIKA ARMENIYA in Russian 16 Jun 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Instead of Zone of Conflict—Zone of Trust"]

[Text] In keeping with a prior agreement, a meeting of Armenian and Nakhichevan delegations, headed by David Shakhnazaryan, the Republic of Armenia president's special envoy and chief of the Republic of Armenia state directorate for national security, and the chairman of the Nakhichevan Council, Namik Gasanov, met on 14 June in the border area of Eraskhevan.

Participating in the meeting were the Republic of Armenia chief border commissioner Gegam Arutyunyan and representatives of military units and executive authority of Ararat and Sadarak Rayons.

As we were told at the press center of the Republic of Armenia Ministry of Defense, the Nakhichevan side once again admitted that its military units were at fault in the incident that took place on 27 May on the border of Ereskh.

With the purpose of averting such border incidents, the Armenian delegation proposed to turn the border zone between Armenia and Nakhichevan into a zone of trust, and as the first practical step in this direction to set up border trade points here.

The Nakhichevan side promised to present this proposal to the Azerbaijani leadership for consideration.

Azerbaijan

Defense Minister Denies Negotiations Ongoing

NC1706202394 Yerevan SNARK in English 1110 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Baku, June 17 (SNARK)—The Azerbaijani Defence Minister Mamadrafi Mamedov denied the mass media reports on the fact that there, in Moscow, are going on the negotiations between the Russian, Armenian and Azerbaijani military experts.

In the interview to "Radio Svoboda" he reported, that these days the representatives of these countries' foreign policy departments meet in Moscow. Touching upon the Russian plan of the Karabakh conflict settlement the minister mentioned that Moscow wants to be useful as a mediator but there are certain points Azerbaijan can't accept. Mamedov again confirmed the traditional demands of the official Baku - to set the occupied territories free. Answering the question about the situation at the front, Mamedov was more than brief: "At the front everything is all right".

U.S. Secretary of State's Letter to Gasanov Cited

NC1806184594 Baku TURAN in English 1710 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Baku, June 18 (TURAN)—A letter of U.S. State Secretary Warren Christopher sent to Gasan Gasanov, Azerbaijan Foreign Minister reads that Christopher appreciates adoption by Azeri Government the last proposal of CSCE Minsk group, which provides ceasefire and location of observers in the region. Christopher notes in the letter that the Azerbaijan agreement with CSCE proposal witnesses Azerbaijan's intention to peaceful settlement of Karabakh conflict. "We demanded from Armenia and Karabakh Armenians to accept this proposal as well", notes Christopher.

The letter reads that representatives of U.S. Government, addressing at the Congress expressed their unsatisfaction by Article 907 of the Act support of freedom. According to Christopher "despite that, it would be very difficult to take away limitations imposed by Congress on the providing assistance to Azerbaijan". Christopher also supported U.S. readiness to help the CSCE Minsk group.

Head of CSCE Minsk Group on Karabakh Peace Process

LD1806183694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1738 GMT 18 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva, Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku June 18 TASS—It is necessary to fully coordinate negotiations on Armenian-Azeri settlement, head of the CSCE Minsk group on Nagorno-Karabakh Jan Eliasson said here today.

Eliasson has returned from Baku upon the completion of consultations in Yerevan and Stepanakert and met Azeri President Geydar Aliyev tonight.

In his opinion, pulled efforts of the sides, the mediating missions of CSCE and Russia will help to elaborate a common concept of the problem solution. He said that cease-fire in the conflict zone has begun an important settlement stage and the settlement process should have the right direction.

It is also important to prevent a new escalation of combat operations. That is why, the persons who are responsible for further developments should estimate their chance correctly and reach certain compromises in order to settle the conflict peacefully and through political negotiations, said Eliasson.

The most correct way towards peace is gradual solution of problems that have piled up over the conflict years. Each stage should be connected with another in a single link, he noted. Such a constructive approach will ensure the withdrawal of Armenian troops from Azeri lands, return of refugees to places of their permanent residence and security guarantees for Karabakh Armenians, which is considered the most important in the settlement by each side, said Eliasson.

Parliamentary Delegation Leaves for Bucharest

NC1706211494 Baku TURAN in English 1741 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Baku, June 17 (TURAN)—Today Azerbaijan's Parliamentary delegation headed by Vice-Speaker, Afiaddin Dzhalilov, left for Romania. The delegation will take part in the session of Interparliamentary Assembly of the countries belonging to the Black Sea basin.

The session is due to take place on June 21 in Bucharest. During the session the issues concerning customs, import and export operations and economic integration are to be discussed.

Dzhalilov also said that the Azeri delegation intends to discuss the issues concerning Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan, the blockade imposed by Armenia against Nakhichevan and the damage caused to Azerbaijan during Armenia-Azerbaijani war.

The delegations from Romania, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, Albania, Armenia, Georgia and other countries are expected to take part at the session as well.

The organization of countries belonging to the Black Sea basin was founded in 1992 at the initiative of Turkey. The purpose of this organization is establishment of economic and mutual advantageous cooperation among the countries belonging to the Black Sea basin.

Presidential Decree Increases Welfare Benefits

NC1806194394 Yerevan SNARK in English 1646 GMT 18 Jun 94

[From the "Business SNARK" file]

[Text] Baku [Dateline as received]—Geydar Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan, signed on June 15 a Decree on "Strengthening the social protection of the population and stabilization of the financial situation in the economy".

According to this decree, the rate of the minimal wage is increased from June 1 up to 2 thousand manats, pensions of those not working and scholarships—1.5 thousand manats. The rate of compensations for each child under 16 years from families with an income less than 4 thousand manats will be 750 manats.

The government is entrusted with suspending the building of objects on account of the budget funds, beside those to be finished this year, cancelling all its previous decisions on privileged crediting of state enterprises, passing to the system of money compensation to socially low-protected residents instead of the system of privileged taxation of physical and juridical persons.

Since June 16 the price of petrol AI-92 has increased from 17 to 100 manats per liter, and the price on bread—from 20 to 80 manats. In May the minimal consumer's basket made up 30 thousand manats and the average wage—8.3 thousand manats, the minimal wage—900 manats.

Georgia

Russian Peacekeeping Forces Prepare To Deploy

NC1706212394 Baku TURAN in English 1741 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Tbilisi, June 17 (TURAN)—Introduction of the Russian peacemaking forces to the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone has been preparing.

Georgian source report that the transportation of the Russian field-engineering battalion to Georgia began yesterday. Beginning in June 19 the battalion will be engaged in mine clearing and placing of peacemaking forces in the conflict zone.

Two motor-infantry battalions from the Group of Russian troops for Transcaucasia have already been transported to Georgia. When the Council of Russian Federation passes the final resolution concerning this issue, these battalions will be introduced into the frontline, along the river of Inguri.

Military source also report that Russia and Georgia adopted a joint resolution concerning restoration of the bridge through Inguri river, which has been blown up in 1993 during actions.

Kondratyev Explains Requirements for Peacekeeping

PM1706193594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jun 94 p 1

[Report by Major Sergey Prokopenko and Colonel Aleksandr Luchaninov of the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense Press Center, from the "KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondents and News Agencies Report" roundup: "Commander's Reconnaissance Under Way"]

[Text] Abkhazia—Deputy Defense Minister Colonel General Georgiy Kondratyev has issued a statement for the press.

The arrival at Gudauta Airfield of military-transport aviation aircraft does not signify the beginning of a peacekeeping operation by the Russian Armed Forces in the zone of the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict. This operation can only begin after ratification by the Federation Council of the edict by the Russian president. The arrival in Gudauta of a signal center and combat-engineer battalion was proposed as a preparatory stage for the introduction of peacekeeping forces. Their main task is to clear the area of mines and to establish communications with the command posts. As Colonel General G. Kondratyev stated at the meeting with journalists, the introduction of Russian peacekeeping forces into the zone separating the warring sides may only be effected after the adoption by parliament's upper house of the relevant decision.

Subunits from the 345th Airborne Regiment stationed in Gudauta will not take part in peacekeeping operations. Russia's deputy defense minister expressed the hope that a political decision by the supreme legislative bodies will facilitate the establishment of peace on this land.

Russian Military Engineers Begin Clearing Mines

LD1806144194 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1210 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Russian military engineers have started mine-clearing operations in the areas adjacent to the Inguri River, where CIS peacekeeping forces are scheduled to be stationed. Eight damaged bridges in Ochamchire and Gali regions are to be restored. Communication operators have to ensure reliable contact between the joint headquarters of the peacekeeping forces and the command points of the peacekeeping battalions.

Defense Minister on Joint Army Exercise

LD1806190294 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Interview with Defense Minister Vardiko Nadibiadze by unidentified correspondent at the Gonio training ground in Batumi on 17 June, where a joint Georgian-Russian military exercise took place—recorded]

[Text] [Nadibaidze] The most important thing is that the first step was made today toward cooperation with the Russian Army. All deputy defense ministers and many brigade commanders took part in this large training session [zanyatiye] of the Group of Russian Troops in the Transcaucasus. It was a very useful and well-prepared session, and there was a lot to see and learn there. It displayed many aspects of the soldier's life.

We brought our brigade commanders with us here. We, I mean Georgian Army officers, have never been involved to such an extent in sessions like that. This is the most important thing about today's session. [Words indistinct] before we left for Batumi, I gave them an assignment to introduce such training into the Georgian Army. Before the end of the year we plan to hold a similar training session involving the 11th Brigade. We are now forming a model brigade with battalion personnel [sentence as heard]. As I said, we are planning to hold a similar session by the end of the year and invite our Russian friends to it, as they did today.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Nadibaidze, the Defense Ministry issued a statement yesterday [16 June] saying that following the Supreme Council session, the transfer of Russian troops to Gali Rayon was delayed.

[Nadibaidze] There was no delay. As planned, sapper groups are now being formed. We will be represented by Colonel Kalandadze, the head of the Defense Ministry's engineer service. Preparatory measures to be taken ahead of the deployment of troops are being implemented on a full scale and according to plan. There was no delay and there will not be any delay in the future. Everything will develop as planned in advance. All tasks discussed by Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev during his visit to Georgia are being implemented stage by stage. On the 19th or 20th June all troops will be in the region.

New Nationalist Party To Elevate 'National Consciousness'

AU1706185394 Tbilisi SHANSI in Georgian 7-14 Jun 94 p 3

[Maia Toradze article: "Nationalists, Stand to Attention! Or the Nationalist Party Has Been Created in Georgia"—words between slantlines published in boldface]

[Excerpts] **Reason:** "Up to now, not one of the parties in existence has been able to create such a society where each Georgian is able to harness his potential to the maximum for the well-being of the nation."

Aim: "To ensure the permanent existence of the nation."

Mission: "To guide the efforts of the Georgian nation toward great aims."

Naturally, there is nothing bad in the fact that one more party has been formed but why, after all, a nationalist party?

Zaza Vashaqmadze, chairman of the Georgian Nationalist Party: "Nationalist means the same as national and our direct aim proceeds from this. The essence of our activities is to place national consciousness above everything else! If we do not elevate our own national [awareness], nothing will save Georgia." [passage omitted]

Whether we like it or not, one more party—the Georgian Nationalist Party—has been created in Georgia. In the main, it unites young people aged between 18 and 30, students, lawyers, and economists. [passage omitted]

Communist Congress Adopts Resolution on New Unified Party

AU1706154794 Tbilisi KOMUNISTI in Russian 7 Jun 94 p 1

["Resolution of the Congress of Delegates from the Georgian Workers Communist Party, the Union of Georgian Communists, the 'Stalin' Political Organization, and the 'Remembrance of Stalin' International Organization"]

[Text] Proceeding from the generally recognized acute crisis situation into which the Republic of Georgia and its peoples have been plunged;

—recognizing the real danger of the further fragmentation of Georgia as a result of the ethnic crisis that has been provoked and accompanied by bloodshed;

—predicting still greater confrontation in society, the final collapse of the economy, the seizure, plundering, and destruction of the remains of property belonging to the state and to collective farms and cooperatives, a growth in the crime wave, and other unbearable social conditions that can endanger the very existence of the state;

—concurring in our views regarding the strategy and tactics for bringing Georgia out of the political, economic, social, and ethnic crisis,

the congress resolves:

1. To view (constitute) the present gathering of delegates from the Georgian Workers Communist Party [GWCP], the "Stalin" political organization, the Union of Georgian Communists [UGC], and the "Remembrance of Stalin" international organization as a congress and the 425 delegates as congress delegates.

2. The present congress establishes the Unified Communist Party of Georgia [UCPG] that includes the Georgian Workers Communist Party, the "Stalin" political organization, the Union of Georgian Communists, and members of the "Remembrance of Stalin" international organization.

The rules of the Georgian Communist Party that were published in KOMUNISTI No. 1 of 19 March 1994 are to viewed as the rules of the UPCG until this party holds its congress.

3. A political council is to be formed to prepare and hold the regular congress and direct the activities of the UCPG. It is to be composed of the following 23 people: P. Georgadze, D. Lomashvili, D. Kevlishvili, I. Khazaradze, G. Leiashvili, D. Gaganidze, D. Glunchadze, R. Chkhaidze, T. Pipiya, Z. Lelashvili, V. Makharadze, S. Rigvava, K. Gardapkhadze, M. Chachukashvili, D. Kiknadze, K. Kuliyev, F. Makharadze, V. Dolidze, G. Oniani, I. Pantskhava, A. Tsereteli, N. Zakariadze, K. Ukleba.

In the event of there being an urgent necessity to include new members, the Political Council is provided with the right of co- option.

4. The congress declares the UCPG to be the successor to the Georgian Communist Party that existed until 26 August 1991.

5. Once the UCPG has been registered, the parties that have joined it (GWCP, UGC, and the "Stalin" political organization) will be liquidated in accordance with their rules.

6. The congress informs those parties and social organizations that adhere to socialist ideas that the UCPG is ready to receive them into its ranks.

The Political Council is empowered to conduct conciliatory talks with the representatives of any parties and social organizations that wish to defend the interests of Georgia's workers through joint efforts.

7. The congress approves the activities of the editorial board of the GWCP organ KOMUNISTI and considers it necessary to assist it in every way (including materially). The constituent congress confirms KOMUNISTI, the newspaper of the GWCP, a party that has made a big contribution to the creation of the UCPG, to be its press organ.

8. The congress recommends that primary, rayon, town, and oblast party organizations unite their efforts, strengthen the unified ranks of party organizations, and, at regular meetings (conferences), elect single delegates for the forthcoming congress according to the norm that will be established later.

9. The congress, understanding all the complexities of settling the Abkhazian problem, views as acceptable the agreement on a cease- fire and the separation of forces signed in Moscow on 11 May 1994 by representatives from Georgia and Abkhazia in the presence of [representatives from] the UN, Russian Federation, and CSCE.

Estonia

Meri Returns From 'Successful' Overseas Visits

WS2006100994 Tallinn ETA in English 0722 GMT 20 Jun 94

[From 20 Jun RAHVA HAAL, HOMMIKULEHT, p.1; "News Bulletin" No. 118/94]

[Text] President Lennart Meri returned from his visits to Kazakhstan and China. Meri saw the visits as fully successful. The Foreign Minister Juri Luik who accompanied the president on his visits, told the journalists that if Estonia wants to be successful in politics, it has to keep close contact with China, who is a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Returning from China via Kazakhstan, Meri and Luik had a short meeting with Kazakh foreign minister in Almaty.

The representatives of Estonian business spheres who were the members of Meri's delegation told that they had made useful contacts and see many new possibilities.

Right-Wing Forces Meet, Unite in Alliance

WS2006101194 Tallinn BNS in English 1539 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Tallinn, June 18, BNS—A meeting of Estonia's rightist forces yesterday in the south Estonian town of Voru adopted the statutes of the Parem-Eesti (Rightist Estonia or Better Estonia) national alliance. Juri Estam, head of the Estonian Association of Owners by Law and a well-known television personality, was unanimously elected chairman of the organization.

Parem-Eesti unites right-of-center parties and organizations that intend to go to the next parliamentary election on a coalition platform. Under the statutes, former members of the Communist Party and employees of repressive organs like the KGB cannot belong to the leading bodies of the alliance or run in election on its ticket.

The eight-member board of Parem-Eesti includes, besides Estam, representatives from the Estonian National Progress Party, the Estonian National Party, and four other rightist groups and associations.

Broadcasting Council Elects Chairman, Deputy

LD1706110094 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1000 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] The Broadcasting Council met today for the first time. Rein Veidemann, deputy chairman of parliament's cultural commission, was elected its chairman, and Toivo Tasa, editor-in-chief of the VIKERKAAR magazine, was elected his deputy. One of the council's primary tasks is to appoint directors general for Estonian Radio and Estonian Television, within the next six months, to introduce a procedure for broadcasting advertisements and election campaigns and to define the conditions for the use of transmitters. The council must also endorse the constitutions for both Estonian Radio and Estonian Television.

Trilateral Negotiations Produce Wage Agreement

WS2006093794 Tallinn BNS in English 1723 GMT 19 Jun 94

[From the "Baltic Business Weekly" feature]

[Text] Three-way negotiations between representatives of the Estonian government, employers and employees ended with the signing of a protocol which establishes a minimum hourly wage effective as of Aug. 1.

Economics Minister Toivo Jurgenson said the wage was set at 2.65 kroons. As Viljar Veskivali, the chairman of the Estonian Industry Association, said, this means that, beginning with August, employers must pay not less than 2.65 kroons for an hour's work.

Veskivali said the negotiating parties agreed in principle that pensions must not be tied to the minimum hourly wage.

The parties also agreed that the unemployment benefit must be smaller than the official subsistence level, which at present stands at 280 kroons per month, Jurgenson said.

"We must give maximum encouragement to working," the minister said. "But we didn't as yet get down to concrete sums in connection with unemployment benefits."

Veskivali said the signed protocol stipulates that the government must reach agreement with employers and employees on legislation raising the tax burden before sending it for consideration in the parliament. Also, the government cannot under the agreement unilaterally put up the price of electric energy.

Latvia

U.S. Specialists Discuss Future of Radar Station

LD1906122894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1120 GMT 19 Jun 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Kuchina]

[Text] Riga June 19 TASS—A possibility of the dismantling of two unfinished buildings in Skrunda, where it was planned to locate a new reception and transmission centre of the radar station, is being discussed by American and Latvian specialists. On Monday they will be joined by Swedish specialists, and consultations will continue until June 22.

Latvia wishes to start the dismantling of the complex as soon as possible. Its construction was started in 1976 and

stopped in 1990. Production forms and records for those two buildings, which have a height of seven and 18 floors, have already been turned over to Latvia, as envisaged by bilateral agreements, signed in Moscow on April 30. The Latvian Government announced a contest among firms. It is going to place the order with the firm which undertakes to dismantle the buildings quicker than others with minimal expenditures. Americans promised to finance the project. It is not clear, however, how much money will be needed and in exactly what way the buildings will be dismantled. The problem is being discussed with the participation of officials from the U.S. Department of Defence.

The agreements signed in the Kremlin have not yet been ratified by parliaments of the two countries. Latvian Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs was asked: "If the legislators do not support the agreements, how will it affect the dismantling process?" He said that the facility already belonged to Latvia, irrespective of the future of the treaty. Under the agreements, the old radar will function for another four years.

Dismantling Under Negotiation

LD1706224994 Riga Radio Riga International in English 2030 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Today the negotiations between Latvian experts and the representatives of the U.S. State Department and Defense Department started in Riga. The main topic of the negotiations is the [passage indistinct] which the American Government is going to sign for the dismantling of one of the former Russian military objects in Skrunda in western Latvia. This object is a part of the Russian radar base, which according to the Latvian-Russian interstate agreements on troop withdrawal, is to be operated by Russia for another four years.

The interstate agreement says that Latvia must dismantle the most recently built part of the station and transform it into a civilian object. This part of the radar station has not been completed by the Russian side. According to the agreement, dismantling or rebuilding of the new part of the Skrunda radar carried out by the Latvian side must not disturb the work of the Russian-operated part of the station in any way. The Latvian side also holds material responsibility in case the building or dismantling work harms the functioning part of the radar station or its staff.

The delegation of the Latvian experts for the talks is headed by [passage indistinct] who is the responsible government official for agreements on the judicial status of Skrunda radar during its temporary operation in the period of dismantling. Today the financial and economical, as well as technical aspects were discussed. Tomorrow the American experts are scheduled to visit the radar station. On Monday a number of American and Swedish experts are scheduled to arrive in Riga to continue the consultations. The talks will end next Wednesday.

National Independence Movement Changes Name, Status

WS2006103194 Tallinn BNS in English 1539 GMT 18 Jun 94

[Text] Riga, Jun 18, BNS—The Latvian National Independence Movement's (LNIM) delegates of the movement's 7th congress decided Saturday to change the movement's status, stating that LNIM is Latvia's National Conservative party now. As many as 223 of the congress delegates voted for this decision, 12 voted against it, and 6 delegates abstained from voting. As many as 270 delegates participate in the congress.

The LNIM board's head, Aristids Lambergs, said that, since the movement's 6th congress, 796 members have joined the movement, and 5 more departments were founded. Presently, the LNIM comprises 2,373 members, which have to re-register themselves again if they want to become members of the newly formed political party.

LNIM Saeima [parliament] faction's Head Aleksandrs Kirsteins said that LNIM supports the development of free market and drawing in of foreign investments, but of most importance it considers the getting back of property belonging to the citizens of Latvia, coordination of proprietary rights, and developing of agriculture.

The Saeima Deputy Chairman Andrejs Krastins noted that LNIM's main task is to win elections of the 6th Saeima and form a government that defended the interests of Latvian people. The delegates of the congress plan to accept LNIM's program and statutes and elect new leadership for the party.

Lithuania

Government Survives Confidence Motion

WS1706130594 Tallinn BNS in English 1236 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Vilnius, Jun 17, BNS—The Lithuanian parliament has not passed a vote of no confidence to the government.

Voting by secret ballot Thursday 51 members of the Seimas [parliament] spoke out for and 65 against non-confidence to the Slezevicius-led government. Two out of the total 118 ballots were recognized invalid. At least 71 votes are needed to oust the government.

Prime Minister Comments

WS2006103394 Vilnius ELTA in English 1716 GMT 17 Jun 94

[From "News Bulletin" No. 524]

[Text] Vilnius, June 17, ELTA—Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius and the new Ministers Vladislavas Domarkas, Albertas Vasiliauskas, Bronius Bradauskas and Aleksandras Vasiliauskas held a news conference on Friday morning.

Yesterday Seimas [parliament] considered the interpellation to the government. The results of the voting were as follows: 65 members were confident in the government, 51—expressed the non- confidence in it. The government managed to survive.

Slezevicius said that half a hundred votes for the non-confidence did not surprised him at all. He promised to take into consideration all critical remarks when drawing up a new program. The program will deal with the privatization, tax control, improvements in the work of customs-offices and investments.

Asked about the rumours about the litas devaluation, Slezevicius said that this was a kind of intimidation of the population. Meanwhile there were no prerequisites to devalue the national currency.

"Our main purpose is to withdraw investment cheques from the circulation in order to make the privatization function in compliance with the economic laws," Economics Minister Aleksandras Vasiliauskas said.

Environmental Minister Bronius Bradauskas said that the environmental protection was impossible without the firm economic footing, thus, the new ministry would see the strengthening of economic, legal and ecological education services.

According to Educational Minister Vladislavas Domarkas, his major purpose was to achieve the consideration of education as a priority.

Forestry Minister Albertas Vasiliauskas noted that his ministry had been unfairly accused of abuse of its power by the press and a number of deputies. Thus, his purpose was to restore the good name of the ministry.

Production Figures for May Released, Critiqued

WS2006094194 Tallinn BNS in English 1723 GMT 19 Jun 94

[From the "Baltic Business Weekly" feature]

[Text] The volume of Lithuanian production dropped by 9.7 percent in May, compared to April, the Lithuanian Statistics Department said.

On the slide beginning with early this year, except March when there was an improvement of 14 percent, it shrank 12 percent in January, 10 in February and another 17 in April. The rise of production in March is explained by a shorted working month in February.

Except oil refining, in May produce by processing and mining industries slowed by 6.2 percent. Compared to March, in April generation of electricity dropped sharply, while production of electricity, heat, gas and water jointly reduced by 50 percent.

In May, production by Lithuanian industry was estimated at a total of 850 million lits. Demand for electricity for commercial ends rose by 8.2 percent in May. Compared to April, in May there has been a drastic improvement production of oil (up 177 percent), detergents (149), canned meat (121), tape recorders (78), TV tubes (52), soft drinks (39) and lacquers and paints (16-fold). Relative to April, slower production involved fuel pumps (down 92 percent), electricity meters (59), household refrigerator compressors (47) and cardboard (48).

Over the month, exports to the West weakened from 15.2 percent in April to 14.7 percent in May with exports to the CIS, Latvia and Estonia dropping from 30.8 down to 27.3 percent. In May domestic sales were up 4 percent and dealt with 58 percent of overall goods manufactured.

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